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NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS, RESERVED WATER AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-NINTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON THE

PRESENTATION OF THE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION'S REPORT "NATIONAL PARKS FOR A NEW GENERATION", PRESENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE DIRECTOR MOTT'S 12 POINTS FOR GUIDING THE NATIONAL PARKS AND OTHER PARK RELATED ISSUES

JULY 18, 1985

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NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1985

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS, RESERVED WATER
AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:03 a.m., in room SD-366, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. Malcolm Wallop presiding.

Present: Senators Wallop, Warner, Hecht, Bumpers, Bradley, and Bingaman.

Also present: Tony Bevinetto, professional staff member; and Thomas B. Williams, professional staff member for the minority.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. MALCOLM WALLOP, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF WYOMING

Senator WALLOP. Good morning, one and all. I regret that we're not outside enjoying parkland, rather than in here on this morning.

The purpose of today's hearing is to allow for oversight on matters relating to the National Park System. Specifically, we will review the recently released report of the Conservation Foundation, which is titled "National Parks for a New Generation." We intend to discuss with the new Director of the National Park Service, William Penn Mott, his 12 points for guiding and managing the national parks, and we will examine the relationship between tourism and the national parks. These three related matters should provide us with an opportunity to explore a broad range of issues and perspectives on the management and use of an outstanding natural national resource, our Park System.

Several events are coinciding at this time, and I am excited at the prospect they provide us. Mr. Mott's appointment to head the National Park Service brings to that organization a dynamic, creative individual who enjoys wide respect among his varied constituency and within his agency.

The report by the Conservation Foundation reviewed the National Park Service and its condition and offers substantive recommendations for its management and growth. I would support a number of the findings and recommendations of that report.

We are discovering—once again, it appears—that parks and recreation play a very important economic role in America. That role is one in which our recreational assets can continue to attract and satisfy visitors time and time again. However, protection of those assets must be ensured if we are to continue to enjoy the aesthetic and economic benefits they provide.

The time is apparently near when a new Presidential commission will begin its work to assess the status of outdoor recreation—both problems and opportunities in America. Less tangible, but perhaps even more important than these developments, is what I perceive to be the emergence of a spirit of cooperation, a desire to resolve some of the problems we face. Certainly all the world is not aflame with this attitude, nor is all of the recreational community centered with a common spirit. But I believe that there are a number of positive signs and changes. Most recently, in this regard, the hearings last month on the matter of recreation fees at Federal areas showed a surprising degree of accommodation on the part of all who testified.

Earlier, in 1981 and in 1982 when this subcommittee held workshops on land acquisition alternatives and land management, the emerging sense of comity was evident. The workshops showed that those with a strong interest in providing a wide range of recreation opportunities for the American people can work together to narrow their differences in how they would go about guaranteeing those opportunities. The dialog from those sessions emphasized the common concerns which bind us, and not the differences which separate us.

Some have complained that the workshops did not result in a flood of legislation. We need to appreciate, however, that creating new understanding can be every bit as important in our system of government as is the creation of new laws or regulations. We have seen that some of the workshops innovative approaches to protecting and expanding our park and recreation resources are not fully accepted in this Congress, or in the environmental community, as yet. We are still in the process of validating those new approaches and in building a broader consensus. The Conservation Foundation report, today's hearing and the forthcoming Presidential Commission on Recreation, are a part of the process of change and consensus building.

I believe that already we can mark successes from those workshops. Here I would include the unanimous passage by the Senate in November 1983 of S. 1090, our bill to create, by legislation, a new Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission. Those who are familiar with the evolution of that legislation are aware of the important role played by the three workshop moderators, William Reilly, Patrick Noonan, and Emery Castle, as members of Laurence S. Rockefeller's Outdoor Recreation Policy Review Group which recommended the establishment of a new recreation commission.

The Senate's effort proved to be in vain, as the measure was not reported in the other body. Fortunately, however, the administration has moved to create a similar commission by executive order. It is also fair, I believe, to link those workshops with the work of the Conservation Foundation in developing the report which we will be examining this morning.

As I mentioned, Bill Reilly, president of the foundation, served as an outstanding member of our working team for the workshops. He made available to us foundation staff who were working on the questions related to land protection alternatives. Overall, I would characterize this as a fruitful, cooperative effort between the Congress and an outstanding conservation group.

In looking ahead again, there are three elements which I would propose that we keep in mind during the course of this hearing. They are as follows:

Intellectual input. In a changing social and economic environment, we are continually being faced with new problems and with challenges to doing the things we have previously done. In such circumstances, we need the best and most creative efforts possible to solve the problems, meet the challenges, and make a better world for ourselves and our children.

Process. There is a necessity to provide the forum for the presentation of these new ideas and the means of testing and improving them. In our pluralistic society we have many such opportunities available. Through Federal, State, or local governments, the academic community, or the private sector we can hear and test new ideas and techniques. The workshops, this hearing and others, and joint public and private efforts such as the recreation commission, are part of that process.

Last, the importance of the resource. The National Park Systems contains very important resources, and they are important in a number of ways. They are important as outstanding examples of natural beauty or scientific merit, or as part of the fabric of our history. They are important as places where we can relax, find enjoyment, and come away restored and refreshed. And they are economically providing the basis for an extensive network of jobs, goods and services. It is important that we recognize all of these aspects of the importance of our parks, and not just concentrate our effort on one to the exclusion of others.

I hope that these elements will be useful in shaping our discussions this morning. There are many interesting examples of how important our national parks have been over the years, and I would like to share one from the Presidency of Herbert Hoover. On May 9, 1930, an entire press conference consisted of Hoover outlining his summer vacation plans, as follows:

> The PRESIDENT. I have questions from time to time about what I propose to do for the summer. I haven't been able to reply to them because I haven't been able to give it any consideration.
>
> I have been very much urged by the National Park Service to visit the Rocky Mountain parks: Glacier, Yellowstone, Estes, and the other parks. Those are the national playgrounds, and they are certainly beautiful enough to accommodate Presidents and, if it can be arranged, I propose to make a trip beginning at the northern ones and working down the Rocky Mountain section through the different parks during the month of August, staying here in Washington during the early part of the summer, and taking weekends up in the Shenandoah hills.

That was another time, and a nice time—I think all would agree.

That, followed by a question on transportation arrangements for the press on the trip, and the news conference was over. It may be the only Presidential press conference in which the sole topic was the national parks and a prominent visitor to those parks.

I am glad to see that he included a visit to Yellowstone in his proposed itinerary, inasmuch as it is our Nation's first national park, most of which is located in my home State of Wyoming.

Since we are going to be talking about tourism and the parks later this morning, I will do a little bit of promotion, and mention that Wyoming is the site of the first national monument, as well as the first national park. Devil's Tower was set aside in September 1906, achieving recognition long before it was featured in a science fiction movie.

This oversight hearing is to provide us with some ideas on building and managing our National Park System in the future. I welcome the ideas we are about to hear, because we cannot march to that future with our eyes fixed firmly on the past, convinced that the way we have done things historically is the only way to do them, or that they couldn't have been done.

This is not to say that every new idea is a good idea. We must exercise discretion over what is offered to us. As an example, after the subcommittee investigated a water pollution problem at Crater Lake National Park in Oregon several years ago, we asked the General Accounting Office to review health and safety conditions in other Federal park and recreation areas. That study revealed serious problems throughout the park system. This led a former Secretary of the Interior to suggest that we pay for the needed health and safety improvements in the national parks by taking the money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. That was one of the ideas that this subcommittee and the Congress chose not to accept. We opted, instead, to pay for these improvements through the Park Service budget.

With that, I will turn to the witnesses who are bringing us their views on how to meet the challenging dual mandate for national parks, the injunction both to preserve and enjoy these resources.

Senator Bumpers, do you have an opening statement?

STATEMENT OF HON. DALE BUMPERS, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

Senator BUMPERS. Mr. Chairman, I have an opening statement and ask unanimous consent that it be inserted in the record. I will not deliver it, and I will simply say this is a timely hearing.

We are very pleased to have Senator Chafee and Senator Durenberger here this morning, demonstrating their interest in one of the most critical problems in the country and certainly the most critical problem of the Park Service. And our new Director Mott has developed a 12-point plan, and it contains very impressive and useful strategies.

I want to thank all of them for their interest in this matter. It's an interesting thing that a few years ago we had—not too many years ago, we literally had to beg people to come to the parks, and now we are here today because the parks are being overused and we are probably going to have to limit the use of those parks unless we expand them, and an expansion is always limited because of the availability of expansion and because of the availability of funds.

So we are in a real quandry here, and this hearing ought to help give all of us a little guidance.

[The prepared statement of Senator Bumpers follows:]

STATEMENT OF SENATOR BUMPERS

I am grateful to you, Mr. Chairman, for holding this very important hearing today. We in Congress as well as the entire country must share with the National Park Service its challenging responsibility of preserving our nation's natural, historic, and wildlife resources while at the same time providing the public access to these resources. The purpose of this hearing today is to address the problems we face in upholding this dual mission. Park Service Director Mott has developed a 12-point plan, which along with the Conservation Foundation's new comprehensive report on national parks, contain impressive and useful strategies for allowing the public opportunities for meaningful outdoor experiences while simultaneously ensuring against resource degradation.

Today we have more than 79 million acres of national park land in this country. Yet this seems scarcely enough to keep up with the growing number of park visitors and the pressures on park resources as a result of this increased visitation. This suggests not only a need for additional lands but also a need for improved park management.

It is hard to imagine a time when parks like Yellowstone and Yosemite were almost devoid of people. In those days before the automobile, the few people who did view these spectacular areas arrived by horseback or train. There were those who truly appreciated the scenic wonder of these places and considered that a sufficient justification for the parks. On the other hand, there were those conservationists who were dismayed that the parks' vast resources were under utilized. In their perspective, it was wasteful not to make economic use of the parks' bountiful resources.

Those opposed to resource uses such as timber harvesting and mining joined in a concerted effort to promote park visitation to ward off further accusations that our nation's resources were laying in waste. It is ironic that conservationists in their quest to prevent further natural resource alteration, such as the damming of Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite in 1913, enticed a great number of people to the parks by supporting improved visitor facilities such as hotels and roads.

Today it is evident that we need not concern ourselves with attracting people to the parks. In fact, an issue of concern today is whether we will need to limit the number of people who can visit some of our overcrowded parks.

The American people are proud of their parks and greatly admire and respect the National Park Service. The fact that the parks are so widely sought out today as a source of relaxation and recreation is a real tribute to the foresight of those who founded our system of national parks and to the National Park Service for its stewardship over the years.

Throughout the development of our national parks, the specific issues have varied. But it seems to me that we always come back to the basic question--how do we strike the proper balance between preserving park resources in their natural state and providing access and development to meet legitimate recreational and economic requirements.

I am hopeful that this hearing today will help to clarify the issues that will have to be faced in formulating a policy that is responsive to these legitimate national interests. I want to commend both Director Mott and the Conservation Foundation for their contributions. I know the Committee will benefit, as I have, from their analyses and recommendations.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you, Dale. Obviously, your statement will be in the record.

Senator Chafee.

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN H. CHAFEE, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Senator CHAFEE. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I certainly want to congratulate you and members of your subcommittee for holding these oversight hearings on our national parks.

Over the past several years there has been concern on the part of many over the problems which threaten our Park System. I think it is interesting to note the statistics. The national park acreage, outside of Alaska, is up 28 percent since 1950, and the visitation at our parks is up by 278 percent since 1950, and so the use of the parks has increased tremendously, whereas the acreage—I am talking always in the lower 48, outside of Alaska—has nowhere near kept pace in the increase in the visitations.

There have been congressional hearings and reports that have turned up a number of threats to our Park System. First of all I want to say, of course, that many of our parks are in excellent shape, but there is cause for deep concern. In my view, the biggest of these problems are external—those activities which occur outside park boundaries, but nevertheless have an adverse impact on resources inside the park.

Little information exists on threats to the Park System units, but the most comprehensive study to date is the State of the Parks Report prepared by the National Park Service in 1980. This first-ever systemwide survey found that no park is immune to external and internal threats. And it listed a series of threats and said, "there is no question but that these threats will continue to degrade and destroy irreplaceable park resources until such time as mitigation measures are implemented."

Although the report has been criticized as being incomplete and imprecise, it did provide a good overview on the condition of the Park System units' resources.

In January 1984, there was a document entititled "Assessing Encroachments." In that, the National Park Service stated that the top priority goal is that the National Park Service should aggressively seek to reduce the external encroachments to park resources. And it concluded, recommending increasing the congressional appropriations for dealing with the encroachment problems and initiating new legislation to provide for the protection of the National Park System.

Last year we had some hearings in the Subcommittee on Environmental Pollution, addressing the matter of wildlife. I had introduced the Wildlife and Parks Act which was aimed at protecting native fish and wildlife species found within the various Park System units. That amendment would have resulted in three things. It would have assured protection for park wildlife on continguous Federal lands outside the park boundaries, as well as any lands inside the park boundaries. It would have assured consultation between park managers and other Federal land managers and it would have required a biannual report on park units' fish and wildlife resources.

It became clear to us during the hearings that one of the biggest threats to the parks come through activities on Federal lands near the parks. We received testimony, including from the administration, which confirmed that threats to the parks are real and are a problem. And if we are going to solve the problem of the external threats, we must require better coordination between the parks and the other multiple use prodevelopment agencies in the Interior Department and the Forest Service.

Now, that recommendation was echoed in the excellent report recently prepared by the Conservation Foundation, "National Parks for a New Generation," in which it stated:

> Congress should enact legislation to strengthen the voice of the Service over the threats to the parks that originate on nearby Federal lands. To be effective, the legislation should require coordination of activities and also of agency plans.

Now, the Interior Department set up a group convened by Under Secretary McLaughlin to look at this situation, and Mrs. McLaughlin has expressed concern for the future of the parks. We have met many times on this matter. And the report they just recently came out with, I must say, seems to me falls short of providing the protection the parks need.

It characterized in the report the park protection problems as needing conflict resolution among the agencies. This could be interpreted by the multiple use agencies to say yes, we can resolve conflicts, but it will be at the parks' expense.

Second, it seems that the program is going to be implemented through ad hoc changes and informal working relationships, and I just think it has got to be out in the open more than that.

And, third, the report says that programs should be accomplished without establishing new planning, reporting, monitoring, or other systems. And I am not sure how we are going to rectify the current system if the Interior bureaus don't make some basic changes in the way they currently do business.

Now, on the positive side, the report's Personnel Management section is encouraging. Employees should be encouraged to coordinate with other agencies, and when they do a good job they should be rewarded.

Now, I am not sure how that program is meant to dovetail with the recently released report that you referred to, Mr. Chairman, the 12-point plan by Mr. Mott. Mr. Mott's plan is an excellent starting point from which to address park problems and I would urge this subcommittee and the Interior Department to put more meat on its skeleton. For example, under item 1, a long range plan or strategy could be formally adopted to require the multiple use agencies in the Interior Department to consider the impacts on park resources as they plan for development activities.

Now, you mentioned the plan, Mr. Chairman—and item 2 in Mr. Mott's plan I would comment on briefly. That encouraged looking at new land protection initiatives, other than land acquisitions, recognizing that the Federal Government doesn't have much money for new acquisitions. And the land protection concepts that were in the Wildlife and Parks Amendment we had last year, or the Coastal Barriers Resources which this Congress passed in 1982 I would commend to you.

I don't want to throw any cold water on any of the points, and certainly Mr. Mott's 12-point plan is encouraging, but I must say I am somewhat skeptical about its success, because there have been so many efforts by park directors to do something about this—and it goes way back to Interior Secretary Franklin Lane in 1918 and Secretary Udall in 1964. That was—1964 was 21 years ago.

Let me just briefly read what Secretary Udall said. "In the development of these goals and procedures, I think it is important to emphasize that effective management of the National Park System will not be achieved by programs that only look within the parks without respect to the pressures, the influences, and the needs beyond park boundaries."

And that has continually been the theme. Secretary Hickel wrote in 1969: "I would like to see you, however, increase the emphasis on joint regional planning, because in the long run, the total environment in which the park is located depends on vigorous and coordinated action."

Mr. Chairman, I just would briefly mention the legislation that we had to protect the barriers. What it did was, it had no money, but it just said that there's not going to be any Federal money spent on the barrier beaches and islands which have been defined by the Secretary of the Interior.

On the gulf coast and the Atlantic coast, he set forth what are barrier islands and beaches. It turned out that one-third of those were already developed, and in the criteria it was too late. So one-third of those was under some kind of protection—State, fish and wildlife, parks, whatever it is. And the last third was still in private hands and did not have the population criteria; instead it was developed. And in those areas, the legislation said there could be no money spent for Federal development.

And Senator Bumpers remembers that well because that was legislation he was deeply involved in. What it meant, of course, was the Federal Government couldn't spend any money on roads, they couldn't spend any money on flood insurance—and that was a bill that tied in with it. It couldn't spend any money on sewage development and so forth. Only Federal money could be spent on safety devices such as navigation markers and so forth.

Well, I can say this, Mr. Chairman; that as a result of that act, the development on these beaches has been tremendously slowed down. Sure, it would be great if we could buy it, but we couldn't. So the wildlife and the Park System legislation that I introduced is very similar to that. What it says is that on the Federal lands—not the private lands—on the Federal lands next to, adjacent, contiguous to parks, there couldn't be Federal moneys developed if it would interfere with the migration or the habitat or the pattern of the wildlife that was identified within the park. And no Federal permits. It is true that it would certainly slow up the lumbering activities on those lands were essential to the migration to the wildlife.

But, for us, it seems to me to spend Federal moneys to have these parks to protect the wildlife and then spend Federal moneys, in effect that are degrading the habitat, or injurious to the very thing we are trying to protect within the park, to spend these moneys on Federal lands contiguous to the park didn't make much sense.

There may be other approaches. That's one. And as you noted I—I am referring again to Mr. Mott's second point. He said there must be some creative ways we can use to expand the land protection initiative.

So I commend you, Senator Wallop and members of this subcommittee, for the effort you're undertaking and I do hope that something creative can come from your deliberations and your oversight.

[The prepared statement of Senator Chafee follows:]

STATMENT BY SENATOR JOHN H. CHAFEE

Subcommittee on Public Lands

Reserve Water and Resource Conservation

July 18, 1985

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Subcommittee, I would like to congratulate you on holding these oversight hearings on our national parks.

Over the past several years there has been concern on the part of many over problems which threaten our parks system. Congressional hearings and reports have turned up a number of threats to park system units.

In my view the biggest of these problems are "external"--those activities which occur outside park boundaries but nevertheless have an adverse impact on resources inside the park.

Although little information exists on threats to the park system units, the most comprehensive study to date is the State of Parks report prepared by the National Park Service in 1980. This first-ever, system-wide survey found that no park is immune to external and internal treats. The report listed 4,345 specific threats to park resources. The report summarizes... "There is no question but that these threats will continue to degrade and destroy irreplaceable park resources until such time as mitigation measures are implemented."

Although the report has been criticized as being incomplete and imprecise, it did provide a good overview on the condition of the park system unit's resources. We must build upon it to fill the information gaps it failed to cover.

In a January, 1984 document entitled "Assessing Encroachments," the National Park Service stated that the top priority goal is: "The National Park Service should aggressively seek to reduce the external encroachments (threats) to parks resources." In its conclusion the report includes two important recommendations: (1) Increase the congressional appropriations for dealing with encroachment problems, and (2) initiate new legislation to provide for the protection of the national park system.

Mr. Chairman last year the Subcommittee on Environmental Pollution addressed one park resource issue--wildlife. I introduced the Wildlife and Parks Act which was aimed at protecting native fish and wildlife species found within the various park system units. The amendment would have resulted in three things--it would have assured protection for park wildlife on contiguous federal lands outside the park boundaries as well as any lands inside the boundaries; assured consultation between the park managers and other federal land managers; and required a biannual report on park units' fish and wildlife resources.

During our hearings on this amendment in June of 1984 it became increasing clear to me that some of the biggest threats to the parks come from activities on federal lands near the parks.

We received testimony from various groups, including the Administration, which confirm that threats to the parks are real and are a problem. If we are going to solve the problem of the external threats we must require better coordination between the parks and the other multiple-use, pro-development agencies in the Interior Department and the Forest Service.

This recommendation is echoed in the excellent report recently prepared by Conservation Foundation, "National Parks for a New Generation." It states: "...Congress should enact legislation to strenghten the voice of the Service over threats to the parks that orginate on nearby federal lands. To be effective, the legislation should require coordination of activities and also of agency plans."

The Interior Department has recognized that problems do exist and the question is, absent any new legislative authority, can they do anything about it.

The park protection working group convened by Undersecretary Anne McLaughlin recently prepared, after almost a year, a report on how resolve conflicts. Ms. McLaughlin has expressed concern for the future of the parks--we have met several times to discuss these matters--but I am afraid that the program contemplated in the report falls short of providing the protection the parks need and deserve.

First of all the report characterizes the park protection problem through "conflict resolution" among agencies. This could be interpreted by the multiple-use agencies to say "yes we can resolve conflicts--but it will be at the park's expense." How is this going to be any different that what's being done now.

Second, it seems that the program is going to be implemented through "ad hoc" changes and "informal working relationships." To me that seems like many decisions affecting the parks are going to be made in the dark with little accountability.

Third, the report says "the program should be accomplished without establishing new planning, reporting, monitoring, or other systems." How are we going to rectify the current situation if the Interior bureaus don't make some basic changes in the way they do business. Furthermore, because of serious lack of information on threats to the parks, additional studies and monitoring should be mandated on a frequent, regular basis.

On the positive side, the report's Personnel Management section is encouraging. Employees should be encouraged to coordinate with other agencies and when they do a good job, they should be rewarded.

I am a bit confused as to how this program proposed by the park protection subgroup is going to dovetail with the recently released 12-point plan developed by the new Park Service Director, William Mott. Mr. Mott's plan is an excellent starting point from which to address park problems and I would urge this Subcommittee and the Interior Department to put more meat on its skelton. For instance under Item 1, a long range plan or strategy could be formally adopted to require the multiple-use agencies in the Interior Department to consider impacts on park resources as they plan for development activities.

Item 2 encourages looking at new land protection initiatives other than land acquisition. Since the federal government has little money for new acquisition, the land protection concepts embodied in the Wildlife and the Parks amendment and the Coastal Barrier Resources Act passed by Congress in 1982 should be reviewed as options.

Item 4 could be expanded to include a system-wide biannual report on problems or threats to units of the park system.

As promising as Mr. Mott's 12-point plan is and as well-intentioned as Ms. McLaughlin's park protection effort is, I remain very skeptical about the success of these efforts. Now I do not want to throw cold water on these initiatives, but if history is any judge, they are doomed to fail.

The issue of protection for the parks has been going since 1918 when Interior Secretary Franklin Lane wrote in a letter setting forth the policy guidelines of the New Park Service:

> "In considering projects involving the establishment of new national parks or the extension of existing park areas by delimitation of national forests, you should observe what effect such de-

> limitation would have on the administration of adjacent forest lands, and, wherever practicable, you should engage in an investigation of such park projects jointly with officers of the Forest Service, in order that questions of national park and national forest policy as they affect the lands involved may be thoroughly understood.

In 1964 Secretary of Interior Stewart Udall wrote to the Director of the NPS:

> "In the development of these goals and procedures, I think it is important to emphasize that effective management of the National Park System will not be achieved by programs that look only within the parks without respect to the pressures, the influences, and the needs beyond park boundaries... The concern of the National Park Service is the wilderness, the wildlife, the history, the recreational opportunities, etc., within the areas of the System and the appropriate uses of these resources. The responsibilities of the Service, however, cannot be solely within the boundaries of the areas it administers."

Secretary Udall's Advisory Board on Wildlife Management said this about problems outside the parks:

> "It would seem to us that the National Park Service might well take the lead in studying

this problem and in formulating cooperative management plans with other agencies even though the management problem lies outside the park boundaries.

In 1969 Secretary Walter Hickel wrote the NPS Director:

> "I am encouraged by the steps you have taken to plan jointly with other Federal land managing agencies, the States and the private sector to share the recreation load in the vicinity of the areas of the National Park System. I would like to see you, however, increase the emphasis on joint regional planning because in the long run the total environment in which the park is located depends on vigorous and coordinated action."
>
> "There are serious gaps and inadequacies which must be remedied while opportunities still exist if the System is to fulfill the people's need always to see and understand their heritage of history and the natural world. You should continue your studies to identify gaps in the System and recommend to me areas that would fill them. It is my hope that we can make a significant contribution to rounding out more of the National Park

System in these next few years.

In 1981 Secretary James Watt wrote the NPS Director:

> Two recent developments have provided the Service with the opportunity to reemphasize its basic responsibilities. First, the "State of the Parks" analysis begun in 1980 should continue, and actions vigorously pursued to monitor, prevent, or mitigate significant threats.

All of this leads me to one conclusion Mr. Chairman--that we need legislation to assure protection for our national parks. In setting up our park system, the United States provided a model for other nation's to establish their park systems. We can be proud of our vision and foresight in setting aside these areas. Now we must continue our efforts to ensure that our nation's most spectacular natural, cultural and historic treasures will be protected for future generations.

In the coming weeks I will be exploring legislative alternatives on park protection and I would hope that you and other members of this Subcommittee would join me in this effort.

Thank you.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you, John.

Senator Hecht, do you have a statement?

Senator HECHT. No, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator WALLOP. Senator Durenberger.

STATEMENT OF HON. DAVE DURENBERGER, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

Senator DURENBERGER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to come in here and call you Malcolm ORRRC for all the work you have done in the last 2 years on ORRRC, and also your efforts to help us as a society which is always looking a generation ahead to what our needs are, and how, in a more efficient way, we can resolve those needs.

I really enjoyed the little role I was able to play with you last year in moving that legislation. I would also like to endorse the efforts of everybody on this committee. I've been with Dale on a couple of bills in this regard, and John Chafee and I are now on EPW together. I just follow his lead on a lot of the resource-oriented issues, and would endorse what he said about the external threats to the park. I think we see a lot of those on the environmental side.

I spent 3 days at a hearing of my Subcommittee on Environmental Oversight in western Montana. I believe it was last year, on the Flat Head River. The Canadians were proposing to open a big coal mine just north of the border and create substantial problems for the Flat Head River and that whole area and Glacier Park.

So anything I can do to endorse what he has just said to this committee about those kinds of threats, often coming from either public land or public policies in this country, I would do.

I am here to suggest to the committee, that as part of this effort that it is undertaking, that it look seriously at the recommendations which have been made to us over some period of time about the stabilization, repair, and restoration of the natural resources within the park, or a variety of the elements of the Park System, for which a lot of these elements of our Park System were created.

The 1980 Park Service report was significant. I read it more closely than a lot of people did, because it was written by Bob Hurst, who was then in charge of this issue. Before that he had been in charge of DNR in Minnesota. And you know what that report pointed out, and you know where we have been able to go with that in the last 4 years. Over $300 million was spent over the last 5 years to address some of the problems within the park, but largely—well, I guess it's a billion dollars in the last 5 years to correct deficiencies in lodges, employee dormitories, water and sewer systems, drinking water facilities, bridges and tunnels—but just a fraction of that amount being spent to repair and restore the natural resources.

I understand that there are about 175—what you might call stabilization projects on the list of the National Park Service this year, and that $34 million at a minimum ought to be spent on some of these stabilization projects, but only 61 of them are being recommended for funding. If they follow last year's funding course, about $7 million is going to be spent across this country on this kind of preservation.

I am here to suggest that the suggestions that we have from various reports, including the Conservation Foundation's report, "National Parks for a New Generation," need to be taken quite seriously and need to be followed up on.

I am working the drafts in legislation which would incorporate their first recommendation, called "Preservation 95," in the belief that it is a must first step in addressing the resource degradation occurring in our national parks. I'll call it something like the "National Park Restoration Act." It sounds very dramatic, but it is an effort—because it is dramatic, I think—an effort to provide a long-term resource counterpart, the $1 billion facilities-oriented "Park Restoration and Improvement Project." It would include stabilization, repair, and restoration of park resources; increased monitoring and research to alert the Service to emerging resource pressures and promote timely responses; periodic systemwide reports on resource conditions along the lines of the 1980 State of the Parks report; and increased staffing and training in natural and cultural resource management.

So, Mr. Chairman, it is my hope that you have begun today a threshold effort to again deal with the serious natural and cultural resource problems facing the National Park Service, and I for one look forward to working with you and the members of that subcommittee to that end.

[The prepared statement of Senator Durenberger follows:]

Dave Durenberger news
US Senator for Minnesota

STATEMENT BY
SENATOR DAVE DURENBERGER
OVERSIGHT HEARING ON NATIONAL PARKS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS
JULY 18, 1985

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate your leadership in calling this hearing this morning. It is a pleasure to be here with Senator Chafee on this important national topic.

The establishment of the National Park System in 1916 embodied a truly American ideal. Millions upon millions of acres of land in areas of breathtaking beauty, unique historical significance or pristine wilderness were set aside for the public to enjoy. Not just for us today, but for future generations.

The National Park System has done a fine job of balancing their dual mandate. And we have a new Director whose commitment to the parks is clear. He has shown that he is ready, willing and able to lead the ongoing debate on how to best preserve and protect park resources for present and future generations.

The American people have an unsatiable hunger for recreation. And we've responded. We set aside bits and pieces of cities, lakes, hills, mountains, and plains to provide recreational opportunities for the American people. The National Park System not only includes parks, but monuments, historic areas, parkways and recreation areas, wild and scenic rivers, preserves, seashores and lakeshores, scenic trails and the national capitol system here in Washington, D.C.

Our generation is enjoying these parks in unprecedented numbers, and leaving their imprint upon the parks. But what of future generations? What will we leave for them to enjoy? And that brings us to the heart of the debate today.

In 1980, the National Park System issued a report we're all familiar with, the State of the Parks Report. This report found that scenic resources were threatened in 60 percent of the parks, air quality resources were endangered in more than 45 percent of the parks, and animal, plant and freshwater resources all were threatened in more than 40 percent of the parks. Further, it was estimated that 75 percent of the reported threats to park resources were inadequately documented.

In 1980 we knew that our parks were in trouble, not only were the scenic and cultural resources in trouble, but park facilities were deteriorating, causing health and safety problems for park visitors. We responded by spending $1 billion in five years to correct deficiencies in lodges, employee dormitories, water and sewer systems, drinking water facilities, bridges and tunnels. We spent just a fraction of that on natural resource problems.

The current National Park System estimate is that it would take over $300 million over a five year period to address the significant natural resource problems contained in approved park management plans.

The Conservation Foundation has just published a new report, Naitonal Parks for a New Generation. I have just started a new organization--AGE--Americans for Generational Equity. And it seems to me the future of our parks is a generational equity issue.

I have read the Foundation's report...it is a good, well-documented analysis of the status of the National Park System. The bottom line is that we must take action soon to mitigate threats to park resources or we risk losing the resources for which the park was created and they will be lost to future generations.

The Foundation makes a number of recommendations on how to go about that. And it is my intention to begin drafting legislation to incorporate their first recommendation, "Preservation 95," in the belief that it is a must, first step in addressing the resource degradation occuring in our national parks.

What I would call the National Park Restoration Act of 1985, is a long-term resource counterpart to the $1 billion facilities oriented Park Restoration and Improvement Project. It should include stabilization, repair and restoration of park resources; increased monitoring and research to alert the service to emerging resource pressures and promote a timely response; periodic, system-wide reports on resource conditions along the lines of the 1980 State of the Parks Report; and increased staffing and training in natural and cultural resource management.

It is my hope that we can begin today to address the serious natural and cultural resource problems facing the National Park System. I look forward to working with you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Subcommittee, to that end.

Thank you.

Senator WALLOP. Dave, thank you. Thank you both very much. I know you know first hand of the complications that exist, the first of which are budgetary. This whole process, whatever level you wish to enter government these days is not without its stresses. But here is something where it appears we can search for creative ideas, some of which are not necessarily the expenditure of dollars, but the changes in management techniques or changes in recognition of what certain Federal activities do.

And I am a strong believer that we have not enough involve willing private sector whose life and livelihood much depends on the success of the Park System. They are creative people, they're willing people, and many times are in the forefront of the calls for doing something differently. We have been, I think, maybe too reluctant somehow to taint a National Park System with private effort, but I think private effort is necessary.

I look forward to working on the variety of things. I hope we can get the Outdoor Recreation Commission named. I am certainly glad that I did not hold my breath in January. I would be passion purple now. But I still believe that it is a birth of some significance. It may well be worth having waited for. And I think all of these will be part and parcel of the study.

I caution us against jumping in with solutions, however well-intended, until we have a pretty broad concept of all the kinds of things that might mesh together in a coordinated way to do something better than has been done to provide us with—as you say, Dave—a view to the horizon.

It is awfully hard in Washington not to look at the paper in front of you and take time to contemplate what tomorrow's paper may say.

I appreciate it.

Did you have an opening statement, Senator Bradley?

STATEMENT OF HON. BILL BRADLEY, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Senator BRADLEY. I have a few comments, Mr. Chairman.

I thank you for holding this hearing. I think it is fortuitous that we hold a hearing at a time when the Conservation Foundation's new report is out. I think the report is creative, helpful and excellent. Also at this time, we have Mr. Mott appointed as the new Director of the Park Service, which in my view is enormously positive as well. Your decision to hold this series of hearings is an appropriate course of action.

We ought to proceed with two basic propositions as we look at the topics today and over the next several months. The first is that national parks are vitally important to all of our citizens and to the Nation. That is, whether they visit a national park to hike, camp, fish, or to do research, the American people need parks and value them.

I think there are different opinions about what a park experience is; but I think the first point is that all of us should recognize that they play a tremendously important role in our society. And second, people are proud and interested in parks and they want to see them maintained. They want to see them broadened and maintained for future generations.

In an advanced industrial society, access to an experience that has in some ways defined the country is absolutely essential. In my discussions with Mr. Mott prior to today's hearing, I was exceedingly pleased to hear him talk about the need to dedicate resources for interpretation. By that I mean that we are finding people who come out to the Park System without ever experiencing nature and without ever knowing what to look for.

Resources that are devoted to interpretation of the parks can teach us a great deal of our historical tradition and also broaden the whole mission of the Park Service in a way that is enormously positive.

Senator **WALLOP**. If you will permit me to interject a thought, one of the things that that does is to, over the course of time, change the experience. I mean a lot of the public does not know what it is that can be gained from a park experience, and if slowly you enhance that, broaden their experience, and at the same time broaden the protection and the attitude of the public to those, it becomes more caring.

Senator **BRADLEY**. Those are two very important points to be made. The public does value parks, it is something of great importance to the United States, and there is kind of a stewardship role; but there is also an education role.

I think the usefulness of the Conservation Foundation's report is that it goes beyond simply criticizing or making points. It offers new ideas and creative approaches.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I compliment you on the hearing, and the Senators for being here. I am aware of Senator Chafee's, Warner's, and Durenberger's commitment to the whole Park System. I salute them for taking time from their busy schedules to be here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The prepared statement of Senator Bradley follows:]

STATEMENT OF SENATOR BRADLEY

Mr. Chairman, let me begin by expressing my appreciation to you for scheduling this oversight hearing on the National Park System and the National Park Service. I believe that the issuance of the Conservation Foundation's excellent new report and the selection of a new Director of the National Park Service give us an excellent opportunity to do some thinking about our nation's parks and the people administering them, as well as those of us who are in the business of designating them.

To begin, I would like to formulate two basic propositions for us to keep in mind as we consider these topics today. First, national parks are vitally important to our citizenry and to this nation. Whether people visit national parks to hike, camp, view wildlife, fish, do research, conduct scientific experiments, explore caves, take photographs, or to simply enjoy the outdoors and perhaps a little peace and quiet, the American people seek out opportunities for this type of recreation. Simply put, our people need parks and the values they possess. While we may all have a different opinion on what a "park experience" is, I think that all of us should recognize that parks play a tremendously important role in our society.

Secondly, I believe that the American people are intensely proud of and interested in their system of national parks. I think that people care deeply about parks and want to see them protected, preserved, and maintained so that future generations of Americans will come to know and respect parks and the values for which national parks stand. I do not mean to imply that people want parks off limits to all but a few or closed to all but the most fit and adventuresome. But what the American public does expect is that their parks be managed in a balanced and responsible manner that puts the protection and the preservation of the natural and cultural resources first. It is the protection and perpetuation of these resources for our children and grandchildren that make parks worth having in the first place.

Keeping these thoughts in mind, I am pleased to note that the new Director of the National Park Service, Mr. Mott, is off to a good start. His "12-Point Plan" for parks provides a basis for moving the Park System and the Park Service in the right direction and is, I believe, consistent with the two themes I mentioned at the outset. His recent address to the Greater Yellowstone Coalition is a ringing endorsement of the need to make the protection and management of park resources (both natural and cultural) our first priority. I look forward to hearing from him in person today and to working with him in the weeks and months to come.

I also welcome the representatives of the Conservation Foundation here today and compliment them on a timely and thought-provoking piece of scholarship concerning the future of our National Park System and the National Park Service. I think they have presented some challenging new ideas for the Committee to consider. I am especially pleased to see the report go beyond just criticizing what is wrong with the current system to suggesting a number of specific, innovative, and I think workable solutions to these problems. I hope that the Committee will take some of the proposals to heart and that together we can make some real progress during the remainder of this Congress.

In summary, this Committee has an opportunity to use this hearing as a spring board to formulate some new ideas about parks and the role of parks and recreation in our society. I for one plan to do what I can to ensure that we do not miss that opportunity.

Senator CHAFEE. From the Finance Committee.

Senator DURENBERGER. Industrial Competitiveness.

Senator WALLOP. Senator Warner, you had a statement.

Senator WARNER. A very brief one, Mr. Chairman, and I ask that it be admitted to the record.

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN W. WARNER, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF VIRGINIA

Senator WARNER. I just first wish to express my appreciation to the Chair and members of the subcommittee for holding the hearing. My connection with the National Park System was largely during the course of the Nation's bicentennial, when I had the opportunity to travel to all of the parks and learned a great deal about the system.

And I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if we might indulge in a historical moment here. Is my recollection correct that Yellowstone was the first national park and also the first of its type in the world?

Senator WALLOP. That's correct.

Senator WARNER. Of course, that's in your State, in 1872, and therefore what you're doing today is focusing or bringing to a focal point 2 years of study on this subject, and I think that your report will be followed not only here in the United States, but worldwide, since we have established this precedent as a Nation and it's being followed by many nations.

I wonder if I might direct the Chair——

Senator **Wallop**. I might just point out that we also had the first national forest—as well as the first woman Governor.

Senator **Warner**. Well, I know that the chairman's the first to hold extensive hearings on this subject sometimes. [Laughter.]

Mr. Chairman, during the course of the bicentennial, I learned that people desiring to visit the national parks and other points of interest in the country, were often without the means to reach a consensus as to where to go and where facilities might be available at certain times of the year, I wish to draw the attention of the Chair and the committee to the concept of an electronic directory of recreational opportunities available in our cities, States, and national parks and forests, about which we sent a letter recently to Secretary Hodel, and I might ask that the letter be admitted to the record.

Senator **Wallop**. By all means.

Senator **Warner**. It seems to me that in the course of your study, it would be helpful to look at that concept and thereby provide instantaneous information to persons all over the United States as to the availability and desirability of visiting certain locations.

Having said that, Mr. Chairman, I'll ask to depart, and submit the statement for the record. Again, thank you.

Senator **Wallop**. The statement will be in the record.

[The prepared statement of Senator Warner follows:]

STATEMENT OF SENATOR JOHN W. WARNER
BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS,
RESERVED WATER AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION
10 A.M. -- JULY 18, 1985
366 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. Chairman:

In my capacities as a member of the Energy Committee and the co-chairman of the Senate Tourism Caucus, I commend you for holding this hearing on the economic and environmental importance of our national parks.

During the time I served as Administrator of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration it became quite evident to me that the protection of the physical portion of our national heritage was important to our citizens.

The preservation of these remnants of the nation's history is carried out by private citizens and by government alike.

Taken together, what remains of our historic past is a great legacy for the generations to follow.

We are able to use and to enjoy this heritage and then pass it on.

(MORE)

CERTAINLY THIS ABILITY TO USE AND ENJOY OUR RESOURCES, AND THEN TO PASS THEM ON TO SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS IS A CHARACTERISTIC OF OUR NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM AS WELL.

THE CONCEPT OF PRESERVING NATURAL WONDERS, AND OF MAKING THEM AVAILABLE TO ALL THE PEOPLE--NOT JUST TO THE NOBLE OR ARISTOCRATIC FEW--IS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION OF AMERICAN CULTURE.

IT IS AN EXAMPLE WHICH HAS BEEN EMULATED AROUND THE WORLD.

AND AROUND THE WORLD, AS IN AMERICA, VISITORS COME TO THESE PARKS IN EVER-GROWING NUMBERS.

THOSE OF US WHO HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE TOURISM ISSUES THAT HAVE COME BEFORE THE CONGRESS HAVE COME TO APPRECIATE THE TREMENDOUS IMPORTANCE OF PARK AND RECREATION RESOURCES TO THE ECONOMY.

OUR NATIONAL PARKS, MONUMENTS, PRESERVES, HISTORIC SITES AND, LIKEWISE, OUR NATIONAL FORESTS, ARE AMONG OUR MOST VALUED NATURAL RESOURCES.

OVER THE YEARS, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS INVESTED BILLIONS OF TAXPAYERS' DOLLARS TO ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THESE PRECIOUS RESOURCES.

(MORE)

THESE AREAS, IN PROVIDING ENJOYMENT AND EDUCATION TO MILLIONS OF VISITORS, ALSO CREATE A NEED FOR SERVICE STATIONS, AIRLINES, MOTELS AND GROCERY STORES, FOR ALL THE GOODS AND SERVICES THE TRAVELING PUBLIC REQUIRES.

DESPITE THE LONG AND STEADY EVOLUTION OF THIS VAST COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY, HOWEVER, IT HAS BEEN ONLY RECENTLY THAT EITHER THE INDUSTRY OR THE GOVERNMENT HAS ATTEMPTED TO QUANTIFY ITS SIZE, VALUE OR CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICA'S ECONOMY.

IN THE PAST YEAR, THE CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT HAS UNDERTAKEN A STUDY ON LEISURE AND RECREATION IN AMERICA.

THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ALONG WITH OTHER FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES HAS STRUCTURED THE PUBLIC AREA RECREATION VISITORS SURVEY (PARVS) TO IDENTIFY THE DEMOGRAPHIC AND IMPACT OF THESE FACILITIES.

THE EXECUTIVE ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON OUTDOOR AMERICA HAS BEEN SIGNED AND THE COMMISSIONERS SELECTED.

THIS SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING IS FURTHER RECOGNITION BY THE CONGRESS OF THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE PUBLIC RECREATION FACILITIES PLAY IN OUR SOCIETY.

AND FRANKLY, MR. CHAIRMAN, I FIND THESE DEVELOPMENTS EXTREMELY HEARTENING.

WHY?

BECAUSE THEY ARE CATALYSTS FOR OTHER PROMISING DEVELOPMENTS WHICH I AM PLEASED TO SHARE WITH THE COMMITTEE.

RECREATION INFORMATION SYSTEM--FEASIBILITY STUDY

DUE TO THE GROWING RECOGNITION OF AMERICA'S RECREATION FACILITIES AND THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES THEY FOSTER, THERE IS ALSO GROWING RECOGNITION OF THE NEED TO HELP THE GENERAL PUBLIC BECOME MORE AWARE OF THE ARRAY OF RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.

RECENTLY, WILLIAM PENN MOTT, THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE OVER-UTILIZATION OF CERTAIN PARK AREAS AND THE UNDER-UTILIZATION OF OTHERS.

NUMEROUS ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMERCE GROUPS HAVE, OVER THE YEARS, EXPRESSED SIMILAR VIEWS.

IN THIS VEIN, MR. CHAIRMAN YOU AND OTHER SENATORS HAVE JOINED WITH ME IN PROMOTING A VERY EXCITING CONCEPT WHICH HOLDS TREMENDOUS POTENTIAL FOR BENEFITING CONSUMERS, OUR NATIONAL RECREATION FACILITIES, AND THE TRAVEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY.

(MORE)

I AM REFERRING, MR. CHAIRMAN, TO THE CONCEPT OF AN ELECTRONIC DIRECTORY OF RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE IN OUR CITIES, STATES AND NATIONAL PARKS AND FORESTS ABOUT WHICH WE SENT A LETTER RECENTLY TO SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR DONALD HODEL.

IN OUR LETTER, WE ASKED THAT THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION UNDERTAKE A FEASIBILITY STUDY OF THIS CONCEPT WHICH WE CALLED THE RECREATION INFORMATION SYSTEM (RIS).

IN OUR LETTER TO SECRETARY HODEL, WE STATED OUR BELIEF THAT RIS HOLDS THE POTENTIAL FOR BEING A DYNAMIC MEDIUM BY WHICH AMERICA'S TRAVELING PUBLIC CAN OBTAIN REAL-TIME INFORMATION ON THE BROAD RANGE OF RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES, AS WELL AS OTHER ATTRACTIONS AND ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE TO HEIGHTEN THEIR ENJOYMENT OF THEIR RECREATION DESTINATION.

RIS HOLDS THE POTENTIAL FOR BECOMING A VALUED RESOURCE, ENABLING THE TRAVEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY TO MORE EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY PROMOTES DOMESTIC DESTINATION TRAVEL.

AND IT HOLDS THE POTENTIAL FOR BEING A TREMENDOUS FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL RESOURCE THROUGH WHICH PUBLIC RECREATION FACILITIES, RECREATION ENTHUSIASTS, AND COMMERCE ALL COULD BENEFIT.

(MORE)

THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION STUDY, WHICH WILL BE COMPLETED IN FEBRUARY 1986, WILL PROVIDE:

1. AN ASSESSMENT OF THE COST OF DESIGNING, OPERATING AND MAINTAINING A COMPREHENSIVE ELECTRONIC RECREATION INFORMATION SYSTEM, AND

2. SUGGESTIONS FOR STRATEGIES TO ENSURE BROAD PUBLIC AWARENESS, ACCESS AND USE OF THE SYSTEM.

FOLLOWING THIS EFFORT, IT WOULD BE OUR EXPECTATION THAT THE CONGRESS, THE PARK SERVICE, THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY AND THE STATES WOULD HAVE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO FULLY EXAMINE THE STUDY AND COMMENT ON ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I ASK THAT A COPY OF THE LETTER TO SECRETARY HODEL, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION, SIGNED BY SENATORS WARNER, WALLOP, PRESSLER, GORE, AND INOUYE APPEAR AT THIS POINT IN MY STATEMENT.

(MORE)

JOHN W. WARNER
VIRGINIA

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
Chairman, Strategic and Theater Nuclear Forces
Subcommittee

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Chairman, Energy and Mineral Resources
Subcommittee

RULES AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

July 5, 1985

The Honorable Donald P. Hodel
Secretary
United States Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The National Park Foundation, in cooperation with the Rand-McNally Company, is developing a series of 12 recreation directories covering all regions of the United States. Two of these directories--one covering the Southeast and one on the far West--have been published.

These directories focus on the National Parks as travel destinations and include information on other nearby public park and recreation facilities as well as visitor accommodations.

This is an extraordinary undertaking, for which the Foundation and you as the Foundation's chairman deserve unqualified praise.

In light of the on-going concern over both the need to encourage more citizens to discover America and the unbalanced utilization of our National Parks, we believe a tremendous potential exists for developing a nationwide, computerized recreation information network modeled after the Foundation's directories. We envision this system to contain all the information found in the directories--a description of National Park destinations, other nearby federal, state and local recreation facilities and food and lodging accommodations--as well as other travel-related information such as airline, bus and train schedules.

We envision this system, originally an information system, developing and joining with other nationally computerized reservation networks, enabling a traveler to book rooms, arrange transportation and reserve recreation and lodging facilities.

Initially, however, the aims of this information system would be:

1. To Provide a centralized source of information on National Parks and nearby travel and recreation facilities:

2. To provide a mechanism for pre-planning both use and management of recreational facilities;

3. To present visitors with alternatives for places and types of activities, thus reducing overcrowding without sacrificing recreational opportunities;

4. To promote balanced enjoyment of America's vast public recreational system; and

5. To stimulate local economies through broadened and balanced use of recreational facilities.

Because of the Foundation's involvement in the directories and the vital support role the Foundation plays with our nation's parks, we request that you as the Foundation's chairman ask that the Foundation undertake a feasibility study of this concept, reporting to the Congress and the Department of Interior by February, 1986.

This feasibility study would attempt to identify the existence of similar nationwide information systems which could be incorporated in the proposed network; identify the ways by which the proposed network could be utilized by the general public; the cost of establishing the proposed network; and the cost of maintaining and operating the proposed network.

To assist in controlling the cost of this feasibility study, we would be prepared to ask the Library of Congress, Congressional Research Service, the Office of Technology Assessment, and other agencies and departments of the federal government to assist and cooperate in this study.

We believe this is a proposal which holds great potential for improved utilization of our nation's recreation facilities. We hope you agree, and that you will support our request and ask the Foundation to undertake this study.

Your interest and support is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Larry Pressler John Warner

Malcolm Wallop

Albert Gore J.

JWW/ep

UTAH RECREATION AND TOURISM FIELD HEARING

The second development about which I am very enthusiastic, Mr. Chairman, is an invitation I have accepted from Senator Hatch to come to Utah on August 10th to hold what would normally be considered a field hearing in congressional parlance.

I say normal, Mr. Chairman, because the Tourism Caucus is not an official Senate body and it does not have either a budget or a staff.

Senator Sasser and I run the Caucus for the purposes of sharing information about the travel and tourism industry with other Senators who have a concern and interest in the industry.

There are presently 74 members of the Caucus, including yourself.

This is the first time in my five year tenure as co-chairman of the Senate Tourism Caucus I have been asked to conduct such a program.

But in all modesty, I sincerely hope it will not be the last.

My hope, Mr. Chairman, is that such hearings could be held in in all Senators' states, helping to bring home the realization that our national recreation facilities are an important and vital element of America's travel and tourism industry, one to be protected and promoted for the enjoyment of everyone.

(MORE)

In the course of August 10th hearing, the Governor of Utah and representatives of Utah's travel and tourism industry will discuss what Utah and its numerous recreation facilities are doing to promote and preserve themselves as travel destinations.

As the chairman knows, Utah has within its boundaries five of the seven national parks that make up the Grand Circle Adventure and one of the finest white water rafting areas in the country.

A second panel is is proposed to include nationally recognized sports, entertainment and recreation personalities who will discuss the ancillary benefits of these recreation facilities.

Such benefits often translate into new industries and new job opportunities coming to an area where once such opportunity either did not exist or was greatly limited.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, a third panel, is proposed to include representatives of the Park Service, the Undersecretary of Commerce for Travel and Tourism and a spokesman from the National Council of State Travel Directors to discuss the promotion at home and overseas of America's recreation facilities as travel destinations .

(MORE)

MR. CHAIRMAN, IN CLOSING, I WOULD JUST ADD THAT THERE IS, UNFORTUNATELY, A PERCEPTION ON THE PART OF SOME ENVIRONMENTALISTS THAT BUSINESSMEN DO NOT RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF A HEALTHY, WHOLESOME PARK ENVIRONMENT TO THEIR LONG-TERM ECONOMIC BEST INTERESTS.

THE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION REPORT IS UNDULY HARSH, IN MY OPINION, IN ITS CHARACTERIZATION THAT "COMMERCIALISM IS A PARTICULAR ENEMY OF THE PARKS."

THE PRIVATE, FOR PROFIT RAILROADS PLAYED A PRIMARY ROLE IN CONVINCING THE CONGRESS TO ESTABLISH GLACIER AND OTHER NATIONAL PARKS.

THIS WAS A HIGHLY COMMENDABLE ACTION, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS INTENDED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF TRAIN PASSENGERS.

WHILE OVERDEVELOPMENT MAY BE A THREAT IF IT WERE TO BE ALLOWED, IT IS BETTER NOT TO RUSH TO HARSH OVERSTATMENTS ON THE MEANS OF SERVING PARK VISITORS.

IT IS NOT MY INTENT TO PICK A QUARREL WITH NATIONAL PARK ADVOCATES.

I CONSIDER MYSELF A PARK ADVOCATE TOO.

BUT WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT THE NATIONAL PARKS BELONG TO ALL CITIZENS.

(MORE)

SOME DEGREE OF ACCOMMODATION FOR THOSE WHO WOULD ENTER THE PARKS OTHER THAN ON FOOT AND WHO MIGHT WISH TO SLEEP UNDER COVER AS PART OF THEIR ENJOYMENT OF THE WONDERS OF THE PARK HAS LONG BEEN AN ASPECT OF CONGRESSIONAL INTENT FOR THESE AREAS.

THERE MUST BE A CONTINUAL SEARCH FOR BALANCE IN MEETING THE FULL SPECTRUM OF ENJOYMENT OF THESE NATURAL AREAS WHILE KEEPING THEM IN TACT FOR YEARS TO COME.

I CONGRATULATE YOU AND THE COMMITTEE FOR YOUR RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY THE RECREATIONAL INTERESTS OF THE TRAVEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY.

I PLEDGE TO YOU MY COOPERATION IN CONTINUING THIS DIALOGUE TO INSURE THAT A BALANCE IS MAINTAINED BETWEEN THE RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL USE AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS OF OUR NATIONAL OUTDOOR FACILITIES.

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Senator WALLOP. Senator Bingaman, did you have an opening statement?

Senator BINGAMAN. I do, and I will submit it for the record. I again commend you for having the hearing and I'm looking forward to the testimony, particularly from Director Mott.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you.

I have a statement for the record from Senator Murkowski.

[The prepared statements of Senator Bingaman and Senator Murkowski follow:]

STATEMENT BY SENATOR JEFF BINGAMAN
Oversight Hearings on National Park Service
July 19, 1985

Mr. Chairman, the creation of the first national park in 1872 and the establishment of the National Park System in 1916 created a legacy for future generations that can never be equaled. Our park system is a gift to all generations and represents the unique vision of those who came before us. That vision must be protected.

Millions of areas of solitary wilderness and other lands of unmatched beauty, cultural and historical significance, and recreational opportunities set aside for the citizens of this country to enjoy.

Now the National Park System has entered an era for which its traditions and policies have not prepared it. After two decades of unprecedented expansion, virtually no new parks are being created. Efforts to extend park stewardship to special areas throughout the country have come to a halt. The cumulating impacts of heavy visitor use and significantly reduced funding have jeopardized the quality of park stewardship.

Total recreation visits to our park system in 1985 will reach 265 million, an average of slightly more than one visit by every American. This represents an increase of 22 percent since 1976.

Yet even as visitation increases, the Park Service's new proposed budget is 33 percent less than last year. We are in danger of losing by omission one of our most prized national resources. And we cannot afford to lose it.

I am pleased that the Public Lands Subcommittee, of which I am a member, is holding this hearing today to focus on these problems and what can be done about them. I am especially encouraged by the aggressive leadership and commitment of William Penn Mott, the new Director of the Park System. It is rare in the public sector to find an individual with a clear vision of what he or she wants to accomplish and who has the skills and the plan to make that vision a reality. Mr. Mott certainly seems prepared to try, with his very impressive background and his recently announced 12-part plan. I support his efforts and will work with him as he carries his plan foward.

I am also heartened by the new report from the Conservation Foundation, "National Parks for a New Generation." The report is a sound, well-documented analysis of the state of our National Park System. The report concludes that we must take action soon to investigate threats to park resources or we risk losing the resources for which the park was created. The Foundation makes a number of recommendations for action. I plan to do what I can to see these recommendations implemented.

There is one other area of special concern to me. We have seen in the past few years large-scale pilfering and vandalism of valuable cultural, archaeological, and historical artifacts in our parks. This is especially true in New Mexico's Chaco Canyon and Bandalier National Monument. Both areas are unique in the world. We cannot allow the continued degradation of these valuable resources. I am presently reviewing the management policies for archaelogical sites and will offer what legislation is necessary to help protect the artifacts in these areas.

We have a duty to ourselves and to future generations to protect and improve our national park system. I look forward to working with Mr. Mott, my colleagues, and all interested Americans to that end.

STATEMENT BY
SENATOR FRANK H. MURKOWSKI
OVERSIGHT HEARING ON NATIONAL PARKS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS
JULY 18, 1985

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate having the opportunity to present my views on a matter of critical importance to the state of Alaska -- the future of the National Park Service. Alaska holds some of the most varied and most prized of our nation's natural wonders. Over 54 million acres of land in Alaska are designated as National Parks, Preserves, or Monuments; that is 14% of all land in Alaska. The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve alone covers an area about twice the size of the state of Massachusetts. Because of the significant amount of land in Alaska that is set aside as park lands, the future of the national park system will play a significant role in the quality of life for all Alaskans.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to formally congratulate Mr. William Penn Mott, Jr. to his new position as Director of the National Park Service. Although I have not yet had the opportunity to work with him, I know that he brings to the position a variety of experiences in all aspects of parks administration. This, along with his creative leadership, will provide new stimulus to the Park Service as it works to balance the tensions between opening up the parks for human enjoyment, yet protecting them from overuse.

I am encouraged by the confidence Mr. Mott has displayed to take the necessary risks to ensure the protected growth of our national park system. In his twelve point plan for the parks he puts forth his views that management policies should specifically meet the needs and values of individual situations. Through the evaluation of needs, I am certain that he will recognize the unique nature of the parks in Alaska. 68% of all national park service lands are located in Alaska, yet in 1984, Alaska's parks received less than 5% of all national park visits. Whereas regulated protection may be a regretable necessity in some parks to avoid excessive use, Alaska's parks are different and require special consideration when determining policies and access regulations to continue to encourage use.

The National Park Service has their work set out for them as they work to achieve the directives in Bill Mott's twelve point plan. I am excited to see this agency revitalized and I look forward to working with them in the near future to develop goals for Alaska's national parks which will meet the needs of Alaskans, while protecting the natural resources enshrined in these parks. Mr. Chairman, I thank you for holding this hearing and for allowing me to comment on this matter of key importance to the state of Alaska.

Senator WALLOP. Now, we have decided with the consent of and at the request of the principals to step outside protocol, that we might entertain the testimony of Mr. William Whyte, who is vice chairman of the Conservation Foundation, in advance of that of Director Mott. And Mr. Whyte is accompanied by Michael Mantell, senior associate.

Gentlemen, good morning.

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM H. WHYTE, VICE CHAIRMAN, THE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, ACCOMPANIED BY MICHAEL MANTELL, SENIOR ASSOCIATE, THE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

Mr. WHYTE. Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, I am William Whyte, vice chairman of the Conservation Foundation, and I am here today to speak on the Foundation's recently released report, "National Parks for a New Generation."

I am accompanied by senior associate Michael Mantell, one of the report's principal authors. He and members of a task force, many of the members who are here today, spent 3 years in research. They did a prodigious amount of work, and one of the reasons they were able to dig so deeply was the support of the Richard King Mellon Foundation of Pittsburgh and the Burlington Northern Foundation of Seattle.

We're very grateful to you, Mr. Chairman, for scheduling this hearing and for the opportunity to present some of the findings of this study. We look forward to working with the subcommittee in the future in ensuring the continued grandeur of our National Park System.

Our president, William Reilly, had particularly wished to be here for this hearing, but had a longstanding family commitment in Europe of the kind he couldn't refuse. In his stead, I will touch briefly on the report's major findings and recommendations.

No. 1, it is certainly a time for imagination. Current budget stringency appears to be here to stay for quite a while. We do in the report recommend a number of new expenditures. But even with all these funds, if they were forthcoming, it would not be enough to buy up all the land that is needed. New techniques, new arrangements, have to be worked out. The only realistic way to extend the Park System, we believe, is through a major new outreach approach that will engage landowners, State and local governments in partnership efforts.

Now, this is easy to say, but tremendously—tremendously—difficult, as the point has been made before. And that's one of the reasons why we are so thrilled and excited with the appointment of William Penn Mott as the new Director of the Park Service. His record of imaginative leadership, every conceivable kind of experience, is splendid.

I think really the best adjective for this gentleman is "youthful," his "youthful" approach.

We are very excited also about his 12 points and we feel that they are a mark of a very refreshing and constructive direction.

Protecting the parks. We recommend a special 10-year program, which could be called "Preservation 95," a resource counterpart to the facilities-oriented Park Restoration and Improvement Program

[PRIP]. Such an effort would be roughly half the cost of PRIP and spread over double the time. Delay would add significantly to the eventual cost.

To help finance some of the costs of this program, we suggest that Congress consider earmarking user fees, including revenues from concessioner franchise fees.

Threats. The majority of the threats, as the point has been made this morning, are external. A process is needed that will provide incentives for the Park Service and its Federal neighbors to work out mutually acceptable solutions. The Endangered Species Act provides an important model for this type of process.

The Service should also identify areas of critical park concern outside park boundaries—migration of wildlife, for example, scenic viewsheds—and legislation should require that other Federal agencies make their plans as consistent as possible with those of the Park Service.

Concessions. In overseeing concessioner operations, the Park Service has moved in recent years toward a public utility model. It is very promising, and we suggest three different ways that it might be made to work better. One of them—just one of them—is that the release of information on concessioner's profitability would be in order. Such information is now withheld from the public.

An effort during the 1970's to obtain it under the Freedom of Information Act failed. The Park Service maintained, successfully, that the information was proprietary. We think the Park Service was wrong in this and that disclosure is in order and that legislation might be considered to assure that it is.

Parks of the future. New parks certainly should be created. We have a number of utterly magnificent areas that do not yet have protection. Among them, the Florida Keys, Tallgrass Prairie, Big Sur, and the Columbia River Gorge.

Most immediately, a strategy should be devised to cope with the backlog of private lands within the park.

Two assessments, we believe, must be made now. First, a thorough assessment of the dollar value of the lands in the backlog. At present, apparently nobody really keeps track of the changing market prices of all the various parcels. Second, there should be an assessment of ways less costly than acquisition—action by local and State governments, for example.

There is a great potential in the greenline approach. That is, cooperative parks that incorporate private property as well as State and local government lands within their boundaries. Also part of the greenline approach are less-than-fee devices, various tax incentives, easements, and so forth, sale and leaseback.

Greenlines are not cost-free. Continued funding is essential to make credible the threat of condemnation that bolsters local zoning control. Flood plain zoning, for example, can be very useful and has been very useful in protecting the hearts of stream valley, just so long as the local zoning board is not giving into pressure.

The park's ability to come in with money and to buy the land, if necessary, is one that has proved to be a wonderful discipline for local governments to keep on the straight path. The adroit exercise of such power requires continuing relationships with landowners and governments, as well as sophisticated management methods. And here we believe there is great room for improvement in the Park Service.

Easements, for example, are a very useful tool. They can conserve key scenic and resource features at much less cost than full acquisition. The land remains in private ownership and on the local tax rolls and, more important, it remains productive and alive. It's one of the gracing amenities of this approach.

The Service's use of easements has been sporadic. Some early programs worked well, some did not. They developed technical plugs of the kind that gave officials wedded to full acquisition and no other monkey business, thank you, just the discouragement one might seek. State governments have been much more venturesome in this.

But by far and away the outstanding work has been done by private and local groups like the conservation commissions in New England, very much including Senator Chafee's home State of Rhode Island. They've done a wonderful job there. The local land trusts that are springing up all over the country. Together they have negotiated more easements than the Federal and State Governments combined.

The other thing that is impressive about it is the sophistication of their management methods. If you go to some of the clinics of these commissions and land trusts and hear them talk about the best ways of convincing landowners to give an easement, what time of day to hit them, how to bring up the subject of the relations, you know they're a very sophisticated thing.

And also in seeking easements, they have demonstrated a gift potential that is really extraordinary, astonishing, also demonstrating to a mordantly suspicious Internal Revenue Service that donations of easements can really be a surpassing public benefit. Here is another educational job that is unfinished.

Partnership mechanisms are needed to provide a forum where conflicts can be thrashed out, and here there's been a wonderful precedent in the Cape Code National Seashore 10-person advisory commission As a former resident of Cape Cod, I think I can say that these kinds of cooperative mechanisms work well in this area, which is full of prickly situations and very prickly individualists, it can work anywhere. So it is a most encouraging precedent.

Local land trusts can be a great help, and we suggest that Congress establish an experimental program in which the Park Service would take the lead in establishing partnership at a few specified parks.

Funding. For national parks alone, even a minimal land acquisition program will require a funding level approximating that of the last 4 years; that is, about $100 million a year. A more expansive vision of the future would warrant an expenditure of at least $200 million annually over the next 10 years. And to help meet this, we suggest that Congress explore additional sources of revenue--a trust fund, for example, composed of receipts from recreational equipment excise tax might go far toward meeting acquisition costs.

More immediately, Congress should set up an emergency revolving fund of about $20 million. The Park Service could draw on this quickly without additional authorization or very fleeting—to grab fleeting opportunity.

In closing, let me say a few things about the newly created Presidential Commission on Outdoor Recreation Resources Review, now called, I believe, the Commission on Americans Outdoors. I partcipated in the original ORRRC Commission under the chairmanship of Laurence S. Rockefeller and I am mindful of two lessons that seem to emerge from that experience. One is that the involvement of Members of Congress is absolutely indispensable to the recommendations and their passage.

Second, that if a really thorough job of homework is done, really, really deep digging, that what appears to be the conventional wisdom at the time turns out not to be so obvious later, and it's supplanted by some rather surprising findings. One suspects very much, the same could be true with this.

So it was with ORRRC. It is sort of interesting to look back and realize that in the enabling legislation for this Commission, Congress specifically directed the Commission not to consider the needs of metropolitan areas—the specific thing there. Well, that was difficult; as people got into the research, it became apparent that this is where the problem was toughest, and that here is where most of the people were—is where the big spaces weren't.

Since the Commission—and there was a good bit of wrangling over this—people said, what was the real intent of Congress? And there was this wonderful period of reinterpretation that was made possible by the congressional involvement in the Commission and, in the final report, noting that these metropolitan areas were where three-quarters of the people will be living, it addressed itself head-on to the recreation needs in metropolitan areas. And while the final report was very balanced and covered the full spectrum, it is notable for the tremendous impetus it gave to open space action, recreation programming in these areas, and the benefits have been tremendous.

For 25 years the country has been drawing on the intellectual capital of ideas established by ORRRC, and a renewal is in order. As has been noted, ORRRC is a mouthful. It's an awkward name and an awkward acronym, but it stood for something. The primary word—and this was true of the deliberations of the Commission—was "resources," or "conservation." And "wise use" was the dominant thread of the recommendation.

We hope the same will be true of the new Commission. Bricks and mortar, recreational vehicles, recreational equipment—all are proper concerns; but, far more important, is that which is irreplaceable. The land and water are the basic elements.

And so we come back to the central part of our report on parks—the great challenges to span the system and its use and, at the same time, protect the underlying resource more effectively than has ever been done before.

We also believe that there is no need to wait for the final report of the Commission to go ahead with certain other actions. We believe very strongly that the resource protection measure in the Preservation 95 Program we talked about is so clear and immediate that action should be taken during this session of Congress.

Once again, Mr Chairman and members of the subcommittee, we appreciate the opportunity to present the findings of our report to you. We hope that you will find our assessment objective and its recommendations achievable.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Whyte follows:]

Testimony of William H. Whyte
Vice Chairman of The Conservation Foundation
before the
Subcommittee on Public Lands, Reserved Water
and Resource Conservation
of the
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
July 18, 1985

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee:

I am William H. Whyte, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Conservation Foundation. I am here today to speak on the Foundation's recently released report on the National Park System, National Parks for a New Generation: Visions, Realities, Prospects.

It is the product of three years of research by a Foundation interdisciplinary team. Its members visited over 60 of our national parks and talked with several hundred people including park officials, conservation group representatives, landowners and developers inside and just outside the parks, neighboring local governments, business interests, and many others.

I am accompanied by Senior Associate Michael Mantell, one of the report's principal authors. All of us at The Conservation

Foundation are grateful to you, Mr. Chairman, for scheduling this hearing and for this opportunity to present the findings of this study. We look forward to working with this subcommittee in the future in assuring the continued grandeur of our National Park System. Conservation Foundation President William Reilly had particularly wished to be here for this hearing but had a long-standing family commitment in Europe.

In his stead, I will touch briefly on the report's major findings and recommendations.

The National Park System has entered an era for which its traditions and policies have not prepared it. After two decades of unprecedented expansion, virtually no new parks are being created. Efforts to extend park stewardship to special landscapes throughout the country have come to a standstill. The cumulative impacts of heavy visitor use and deferred maintenance of resources threaten serious damage to the parks. When modernization should be a top priority for the National Park Service, more emphasis has been placed on reducing federal expenditures than on enhancing the quality of park stewardship.

This is not a doomsday report. But the fact is that the parks do face very serious challenges, more so than we anticipated when we began this study, and far-reaching measures are needed.

It is a time for imagination. The current budget stringency is here to stay for a while. Some new expenditures are in order, to be sure. The Foundation's report calls for a 10-year preservation program, with additional funding of $50 million annually for natural and cultural resources management in addition to the $95 million already provided.

But the report also calls for $200 million annually over the next 10 years to permit expansion of the system. Even these funds, however, would not be enough to buy up all that is needed. New techniques, new arrangements have to be worked out. The only realistic way to extend the park system, we submit, will be through a major new outreach program that will engage landowners, conservationists, park neighbors and state and local governments in collaborative efforts.

These imperatives are why we are so thrilled with the appointment of William Penn Mott, Jr., as the new director of the park service. His fine record of imaginative leadership in park acquisition and management suits him well for the challenges he faces. The park service is a unique national resource. Mr. Mott will have to chart new directions to make the service function better as a bureaucracy without undercutting the proud institutional tradition and the remarkable individual dedication that characterizes its staff. We have every confidence that Mr. Mott will be able to do this and think that his 12 points are a major step in the needed direction and quite consistent with the findings and recommendations of our report.

Protecting the Parks

Embodied in the parks' statutory charter are two conflicting directives: to preserve the parks from degradation, and to foster public enjoyment of the parks. These two purposes have always been in some tension. The parks are indeed for people. Any highly restrictive policy on their use and access could not long survive, for the most committed advocates for the parks are people who have been to them.

The danger is not excessive protection, but too little protection. The growing impacts of visitors, increased development, commercialization, incompatible and polluting activities around park boundaries--these are the real problems confronting today's parks. They are why we strongly urge more active protection of the parks.

We recommend a special 10-year program. It could be called Preservation '95, a resources counterpart to the facilities-oriented Park Restoration and Improvement Program (PRIP). For an additional expenditure of $50 million annually over a 10-year period, the program would enable the service to address its most pressing problems in a pragmatic fashion; train a larger cadre of qualified resource specialists; stabilize, repair and restore park resources; monitor the pressures on them; and push resource management higher up the bureaucratic scale. Such an effort would be roughly half the cost of PRIP and spread over double the time. Delay of these initiatives would add significantly to the eventual costs--and in some instances prevent effective response altogether. To finance some of the costs of Preservation '95 Congress should consider earmarking user fees, including revenues from concessioner franchise fees.

External Pressures

The majority of threats to park resources--water and air pollution, visual and aesthetic intrusions, inadequate water supply, and so on--originate entirely or largely outside park boundaries. Activities located on federal land or dependent on federal funding are one category. Congress should enact legislation to strengthen the voice of the service over threats to the parks that originate on nearby federal lands. When proposed activities on federal land may harm a park, it is not enough simply to require the proposing agency to consult the park service and "consider" its objections. Neither, however, would it be practical to give the service a veto over the other agency's proposal.

A process is needed that will provide incentives for the park service and its federal neighbors to work out mutually acceptable solutions. The Endangered Species Act provides an important model for the type of process needed. Actions by other agencies within the Interior Department should be controlled by a directive from the secretary that requires consultation with the park service and moves the decision up to the regional offices of each agency, then to the applicable assistant secretaries and finally, if the parties cannot agree, to the secretary.

Rather than waiting until potentially harmful activities are proposed, the park service should also work with other agencies as plans are prepared for land that may affect the parks. In consultation with affected agencies, the service should identify "Areas of Critical Park Concern" outside park boundaries--habitat or migration routes for wildlife, for example, or scenic viewsheds. Legislation should require other federal agencies to make their plans as consistent as possible with policies established for an area of critical park concern. To handle disagreements, a negotiation process should be established comparable to the one set up by the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Some activities that affect the parks do not take place on federal land, but do receive federal funding. Legislation should add park protection to the standards for evaluating these projects. An appropriate model is the recently enacted Coastal Barrier Resources Act, which bars federal funds for projects, such as bridges and sewers, that would affect undeveloped coastal barrier areas. Legislation should bar federal funding for incompatible projects in areas of critical park concern and, again like the Endangered Species Act, provide for a reconciliation process to balance park protection and competing interests.

Concessions

In overseeing concessioner operations, the park service has moved in recent years toward a public utility model. This approach, coupled with removal of structures from particularly unsuitable locations, establishes a realistic process. The report recommends three initiatives to make it work better. Included are some changes in the Concessions Policy Act of 1965 to avoid excessive protection in concessions contracts and some ways to strengthen park service oversight.

One of the most important changes would be the release of information on concessioners' profitability. To enable it to apply the statutory standard entitling concessioners to a "reasonable opportunity ... to make a profit," the service requires an annual financial report from each concessioner. Such information is now withheld from the public, and an effort during the 1970s to obtain it under the Freedom of Information Act failed. The park service maintained, successfully, that the information was proprietary!

We think the park service was wrong. Disclosure is in order. It would permit more effective public scrutiny of the rates set and activities permitted by the park service as well as reduce opportunities for favoritism in establishing and administering contracts. Disclosure would also enlarge the opportunity for informed dialogue between concessioners and their critics, diminishing the stridency and suspicions of impropriety that are inevitable when the facts are kept secret. The park service should reexamine its finding that such information is proprietary and thus exempt from the Freedom of Information Act. If necessary, Congress should enact legislation to assure that this information is made public.

Particular attention should be paid to future private sector involvement in parks in Alaska. So remote from national population centers, largely pristine landscapes, these parks provide a unique opportunity for innovative private sector activity. They also provide the park service a chance to avoid repeating earlier mistakes.

Parks of the Future

It is important we pursue an expansive vision of the future. The United States still has many unprotected special places worthy of preservation and use in the national park tradition--among them, the Florida Keys, Tallgrass Prairie, Big Sur, and Columbia River Gorge. In addition, protective acquisitions, to defend existing parks, are increasingly needed. To create a future system, initiatives are needed in five areas--backlog land, greenline or cooperative parks, the land protection process, the park selection process, and funding.

Most immediately, a strategy must be devised to cope with the backlog of private land within parks that has neither been acquired by the service nor otherwise protected against incompatible development. The backlog amounts to roughly 307,000 acres. No one knows what the cost of buying it all would be. Additional spending of $550 million would hit the statutory ceilings authorized by Congress, and the actual cost would unquestionably be many millions more.

Two assessments must be made now. First, a thorough assessment of the dollar value of the lands in the backlog should be made. At present, no one keeps track of market prices for the various parcels. Second, there should be an assessment of ways less costly than acquisition--action by local and state governments, for example, to protect backlog land.

The Greenline Approach

There is a great potential in greenline or cooperative parks that incorporate private property as well as state and local government lands within their boundaries. Several such parks are already in the system; more should be in special places where massive federal land acquisition would disrupt landowners and their communities. Greenlines also hold promise for avoiding the high costs of acquisition.

Greenlines are not cost-free, however. Some land must often be acquired for inclusion in a park's core area for public access and educational facilities. The protective measures applied to private property (easements, tax incentives) also have costs--in foregone revenues, for example. Moreover, continued funding is essential to make credible the threat of condemnation that bolsters local zoning controls in greenline units such as the Fire Island National Seashore. Without funding, the protection of some private lands in those units would prove illusory.

Greenlines will succeed only if protective measures can be established and then managed effectively over the long term. Flood plain zoning, for example, can protect the heart of a stream valley--so long as the local zoning board maintains the zoning. The park service's ability to acquire the land, if necessary, is a discipline that helps local governments keep the faith. The adroit exercise of such powers requires continuing relationships with landowners and governments as well as sophisticated management methods.

Easements and Other Greenline Techniques

Easements are a useful tool. They can conserve key scenic and resource features at much less cost than full acquisition; the land remains in private ownership and on the local tax rolls; more important, it remains productive and alive and all the more gracing an amenity--like the rolling farmland along the Blue Ridge Parkway. Easements can also be a public relations measure; they provide an earnest of the service's intentions to work with landowners and local governments. This can go far to dispel the bogey of all-or-nothing acquisition that has provoked local opposition to park projects, and so unnecessarily.

The service's use of easements has been sporadic. Some early programs worked well. Some did not, developing technical bugs that gave officials wedded to full fee acquisition confirming discouragement. State governments have been much more venturesome. Wisconsin, for example, has saved the beautiful landscape along the Great River Road by the Mississippi with scenic easements; prime bottomland and stream valleys have also been preserved with conservation easements. Cost experience has been excellent.

But by far and away the outstanding work has been done by private and local groups, like the chapters of The Nature Conservancy, the conservation commissions of New England, the local land trusts that have been springing up across the country. Together, they have negotiated more easements than the federal and state governments combined. In the process they have unearthed a gift potential that is downright astonishing, demonstrating to a mordantly suspicious IRS that donation of easements can be of surpassing public benefit.

The park service has some catching up to do. Through clinics on acquisition and less than fee techniques, staff members can be trained to apply the lessons that have been learned by local groups. Conversely, the service can help stimulate the creation of land trusts and such groups where there are none.

Partnership mechanisms involving the park service and its neighbors are needed to provide a forum where conflicts can be thrashed out. The ten person advisory commission set up for the Cape Cod National Seashore was the pioneer effort. It worked--and in an area rife with prickly situations and determined individualists. Similar commissions have since been established in some of the newer parks.

Local land trusts can be a great help. Some park officials have developed ties with such groups and in some instances helped the trust get established. But this has not been the rule. Too often, park officials have impeded such participation, apparently out of concern that it would unduly interfere in local affairs. The hands-off policy is not productive and should be replaced by one encouraging participation.

Congress should establish an experimental program in which the park service would take the lead in establishing partnerships at a few specified parks. Part of this program would involve designating formal park protection zones, adjacent to the selected units, within which special support would be made available, such as technical assistance or grants to pay for land-use planning. The service would be authorized to accept donations of lands and easements within these zones.

Funding

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) expires in 1989. Overall, it has worked well and Congress could do worse than to reauthorize it. In any event, a successor mechanism must be set up and no other single decision will so fundamentally shape the park system of the future.

For national parks alone, even a minimal land-acquisition program will require a funding level approximating that of the last four years--roughly $100 milion per year. This will be needed for continuing acquisition of land in the backlog, for acquisitions essential to protect existing parks from external threats, and for creation of some new units. A more expansive vision of the future park system, however, warrants a level of $200 million annually over the next 10 years. To help meet this, Congress should explore additional sources of revenue. A trust fund composed of receipts from a recreational equipment excise tax, for example, might go far toward meeting acquisition needs. Like the LWCF, its successor should continue to fund federal agencies and state and local governments. Grants for specific open space projects have provided important seed money for open space acquisition and management and should continue to do so.

More immediately, Congress should set up an emergency revolving fund of about $20 million. The park service could draw on this quickly, without additional authorization, for acquisition of inholdings under three circumstances: first, when the availability of a key parcel is at stake; second, when acquisition is the only way to eliminate the threat of incompatible development; and third, when the park service must condemn property within units because private landowners have failed to comply with land use controls.

The Presidential Commisson on Americans Outdoors

In closing, let me say a few things about the recently created Presidential Commission on Outdoor Recreation Resources Review, now called, I believe, the Commission on Americans Outdoors. I participated in the original Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission under the chairmanship of Laurance S. Rockefeller, and I'm very mindful of two lessons that emerged. One is that the involvement of members of Congress in such a study can be indispensable to its success. Second: if a really thorough job of homework is done, what initially seem the obvious conclusions will be supplanted by some rather surprising ones.

So it was with the ORRRC. In the law setting it up Congress specifically directed it not to consider urban areas. ("'Outdoor Recreation Resources' shall not mean nor include recreation facilities, programs or opportunities usually associated with urban development." Public Law 85-470, 1958) As research proceeded, however, it became apparent that it was precisely in such areas that the imbalance in supply and demand was greatest. Where the people were, the big open spaces were not.

Since the Commission included members of Congress, it was able to reinterpret the directive. Noting that this was where three-quarters of the people will be living, it addressed itself head-on to the recreation needs in metropolitan areas. While the final recommendations embraced the whole range of recreation resources, the report was a major stimulus to open space action and recreation in the areas where land was dearest and hardest to come by. The benefits have been tremendous.

For twenty-five years the country has been drawing on the capital of ideas and on the funding established by ORRRC. A renewal is in order. We at The Conservation Foundation appreciate your leadership, Mr. Chairman, on this issue and look forward to your further leadership with the commission as it conducts its work. Much has changed since the time when the deliberations of the original ORRRC provided the inspiration for vigorous federal involvement in resource protection and outdoor recreation; a reassessment and consensus effort to position these resources for the rest of this century is urgently needed.

The National Park System is, of course, one important part of our country's outdoor recreation and resource protection opportunities. A perspective that looks at the whole nationwide network is needed for this time. This perspective, which Mr. Mott brings his new position, is particuarly important for the most critical issues facing the national parks.

The ORRRC was an awkward name. But it stood for something. The primary word was "resources." Their conservation and wise use was the dominant thread of the recommendations.

We hope the same will be true with the new commission. Bricks and mortar, recreational equipment, vehicles, the programming of spaces--such are proper concerns. But far more important is what is irreplaceable: the land and water that are the basic elements. We come back to a central point of our report on the parks: the great challenge is to expand the system and its use--and to protect the underlying resources more effectively than ever before.

Some of the needed protective measures need not await the findings of the Commission. In particular, the need for the resource protection measures of Preservation '95 is so clear and immediate that action should be taken during this session of Congress.

Insofar as the park system is concerned, the chief task facing the commission is seeking consensus for park policy in Congress and the administration. The Commission has a unique opportunity to address the broad needs facing the parks--in particular, to seek new cooperative measures to enlist private groups and local and state governments in acquisition and management. Among the particular initiatives needed are a thorough assessment of the dollar cost of clearing up the backlog of unprotected, unacquired parkland, coupled with a search for ways to complete the unfinished parks by less costly means. Providing a successor to the Land and Water Conservation Fund

(LWCF) will prove no easy job. If the commission is to succeed, it must find a way to reassert bipartisan support for the LWCF or its equivalent.

Once again, Mr. Chairman and members of the Subcommittee, we appreciate the opportunity to present the findings of our report to you. We hope you will find its assessments objective, and its recommendations achievable. Thank you very much.

Senator Wallop. Thank you very much, Mr. Whyte.

Senator Bradley.

Senator Bradley. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Again, I thank you for not only your testimony but for the report, it's enormously positive. One of the areas that you seem to be thinking about is the amount of land, even new land, that needs to be protected and the rather meager resources that we have for such purposes. And you've mentioned several possible approaches.

Which would you pick as the most effective approach?

Mr. Whyte. I don't want to weasel when I say that I think there are several which have to be used in tandem. Thinking now of the land beyond the park boundaries, I think it's a combination, one, of local zoning—very important—local zoning with all the leverage that the Park Service can bring to bear on it. Local zoning is very important.

I think limited acquisition—and here again, you might want to get a few key parcels as anchors. But there are opportunities through tax incentives, through easement, less than fee ownership, of securing a lot more land than has ever been seen possible before.

I think that recognizing there are more acres needed than we've ever realized before—but, by the same token, there's a great deal of interest now, a great deal of experience coming. This does not have to cost very much to solve. If I may return to easements a little bit, the original idea—I'd say in a similar session, say 20 years ago, we would have thought, my gosh, this is going to take far too much money because you have to spread this over wholesale, say a whole ridge line or something like that.

I think we are finding out the local land trusts are really the pioneers on this. They're saying, look, it's not necessary to sew up all the bottomland, all the flatland, all the development land, because it's usually in about 5 percent of an area that really is involved in the park.

What we should go after and what we are getting by gifts are the ridge lands, the steep slopes, and the things which define the beauty.

In sum, I think that we've learned a lot, in great part due to the tremendous interest of the local group, that there is a self-interest on the part of the landowners that can be satisfied, and that we can sew up a lot more of this land.

Senator Bradley. Are you familiar with the Pinelands?

Mr. Whyte. Yes.

Senator Bradley. Would you say that the Pinelands serves as a model for what might be done in the area of State, local, Federal, and private cooperation?

Mr. Whyte. Yes; in part I do. That's a very unusual area because it doesn't have the sort of development pressures the others do.

Senator Bradley. Well, that's not what the developers tell me.

Mr. Mantell. If I could just add to what Mr. Whyte said, Senator Bradley, we talked about it in the book. We look at that very much as one of the major innovations in the late 1970's that has a tremendous amount of relevance today.

The total Federal expenditure in the Pinelands through 1985 will probably be somewhere near $30 million, which is a very small amount of money to protect such a unique and important resource.

And while, as Mr. Whyte said, a variety of techniques and a variety of tools will work in different places, the Pinelands, where the State is really taking the lead—and the Federal Government has performed a very important role as a partner—is certainly a model that is very much worth duplicating in other areas across the country.

Senator BRADLEY. The key to the success of the Pinelands is that there is a broad political commitment to this at every political level—at local, at State, and at the Federal level.

Now, you don't always get that, and even in the Pinelands at the local level, you frequently find zoning boards scapegoating the State and the review commission. So essentially what you're saying is, if we go this route, it means a more thorough, joint regulatory role jointly by State and local government. And that must have broad political support if it's going to work.

Mr. WHYTE. I think the one thing that's interesting about New Jersey—New Jersey has, on a per capita basis, raised more money through bond issues than any other State for open space acquisition—two huge programs. And while I can't say there is an absolutely direct connection between that and how things worked out in the Pinelands—I know there was a great deal of apprehension in many areas that if we don't straighten up and do a lot of local zoning, the State's going to come in and buy up a lot of land.

So the action of the State in those two great bond issues was very, very important.

Mr. MANTELL. The Pinelands model was somewhat picked up in the last session of Congress in the passage of the Illinois-Michigan National Heritage Corridor. And while you are absolutely correct that the working of that model depends very critically on State and particularly local cooperation, the Federal Government does have a very important role to play in terms of providing incentives, in providing some oversight in the development of a plan for the area, and providing continual technical assistance.

And the viability of the Pinelands approach is that it relies so heavily on State and local governments, but that it will only work with an active Federal participation at some level.

Senator BRADLEY. Well, I thank you.

Are you concerned with the overcrowding of parks?

I've visited several and it seems at times you might as well go to an amusement park. I was in Yosemite last summer, and the floor of Yosemite was a little bit like the commuter station in Newark. It is very crowded. And yet, you hike 2 or 3 hours up out of the floor of Yosemite, and you don't see anybody. In addition, the areas around concession stands are particularly crowded. Should we eliminate these stands? If so, how?

Mr. WHYTE. We tilt very strongly toward protection, just because of this perception. It's also a reality.

I'd like to just stick in one little plug for something the park service started to do some years ago, taking a closer look at the visitor experience. Why is it that people perceive things are very crowded, yet when you see the way they space out their tents, they're all getting close together.

Some very fascinating work was done at the seashore, Breezy Point, the Gateway National Park, on where people put their beach umbrellas, how they use the beach. There's been some other fascinating work on that, taking a very cold-blooded look from an observational point of view just on these questions of density abuse, and it's something that I'm sure, because of Mr. Mott's 12 points, is very much a part of his program. Very helpful.

Senator Bradley. Thank you.

Senator Wallop. Senator Hecht.

Senator Hecht. No thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator Wallop. I have, as you can imagine, a whole passel of questions because the whole subject fascinates me. We have, as is always the case in this terrible place, constraints of time with the Senate meeting to establish a quorum at noon and the vote to follow shortly after that quorum is achieved.

So some of what will develop during the passage of time with more hearings in this committee I would like to just share with you, not by way of a question, but an expression of the frustration that I have, that the structure of Government really is an impediment to trying to do a lot of these things in a smooth and coordinated way.

It's easy for us, for example, to blame it on the administration, who has OMB and Treasury, with an entirely different view of things than does the National Park Service and others. But Congress itself has frustrated me for the last several years, ever since we held the oversight hearings on alternatives to fee acquisition, because though I sit on both the Finance Committee and this Committee, and chair subcommittees who work it, I have yet to be able to achieve a hearing wearing a common hat so that I can provide the information simultaneously to both, and try to get both on board.

We have gotten some measure of achievement with the Internal Revenue Code, and more I think is clearly my desire, but we, as you know, we have spent an interminable length of time trying to get them just to give us an interpretation of what constitutes lands of national significance. And, of course, we've lost some things. You've lost some very valuable things while you awaited that interpretation and the State planners simply could no longer afford the risk that what they wanted to do would not be considered lawful.

So, therefore, we lost them. And we need your help, not only in this Committee, but in the Finance Committee, on the broad scale of things.

I have one question that I just want to explore very briefly with you before we turn to the Director. And that is why is public access to the financial statements of concessioners a thing worth breaking a pick over? And I understand why it is necessary information for the Park Service, but I find myself very reluctant to get into the idea that that would be a requirement for the concessioners, and would like you just to explore briefly the logic.

Mr. Mantell. I think I'll answer that, Mr. Chairman.

We came up with that recommendation after a lot of looking and a lot of talking to people. The concessioners, many of which are very small and independent operations and provide such things as burro rides and bus trips to the parks; they are quite a diverse lot. The problem is that some do operate on public lands for quite a long period of time, some up to 30 years, and that disclosure of some information—we are not after every single bit of financial information that they necessarily give to the Park Service—but the disclosure of some information regarding their profitability would be of enormous help to the public in seeing what sorts of arrangements they operate under in the parks.

Senator **Wallop**. Why?

Mr. **Mantell**. Because right now, the climate that concessioners operate under is very clouded, sometimes filled with polarization between conservationists, between concessioners, and the Park Service—and part of the cloud that exists is due in part to the secrecy under which they operate. And we feel that the Park Service probably has nothing to hide, and the concessioners have nothing to hide in terms of these arrangements, and that removing that cloud will do a lot toward strengthening a dialog to remove any suspicions that exist about favoritism.

Senator **Wallop**. I must say that suspicions exist all the time for all kinds of reasons. I mean, I think there has to be a better reason to call for it than just that somebody is suspicious.

What really is of interest to the public is whether they are well done or not; that the public has a good, competent, safe, well-run service out of a concession. And if somebody suspects that somebody's becoming a millionaire out of it, they will; even with a directive for disclosure of those bits of information, somebody is going to say, well, I don't believe it.

It seems to me that we have better areas upon which to concentrate our efforts that will provide us real achievements, other than lifting a cloud of suspicion, because that's just sort of human nature. And there is one thing in the country that is also a level, long-term value, constitutionally as well as otherwise, and that's the right to privacy.

Mr. **Mantell**. We couldn't agree with you more, Mr. Chairman, that the ultimate rule with concessions is the type of service they provide to the public.

Senator **Bumpers**. Would you pull that microphone up a little closer, please?

Mr. **Mantell**. Certainly.

And that by and large, that the service that concessioners provide to the public meets that test.

However, disclosure of this information, which is completely in line with the public utility approach that the Park Service and concessioners have worked out, and is something that public utilities are always subject to, would lead to a much more informed dialog about future concessioner policy.

And while I think that we at the Conservation Foundation would agree with you that while there are other issues, particularly involving park resources and creating future parks, that are more pressing perhaps than this, this one small step could go a long way toward leading to more informed concessioner policy.

When you look at the estimates of gross receipts of a concessioner and see that one makes $58 million a year and another makes about $20 million a year, and the one making $20 million a year pays something like $4 million in fees, and the one that makes $58 million pays something like $700,000 in fees—when the public learns about that, they can't help but wonder what is really going on.

And, frankly, I don't think anyone has anything to hide. It would just ease that tension and let us move on to more important issues.

Senator **Wallop**. Why are you focusing on two when there are hundreds? I don't, personally speaking, think it's a question of having anything to hide, it's just a way of living as an American. But if the Congress really is the theoretically responsible body to overview, oversee that policy as it was set up in the Concessioners Policy Act, it's not worth an argument here because there's obviously many more things, but I just wanted to expand a little bit on the rationale for it.

Mr. **Mantell**. We appreciate your interest very much and are willing, as you know, to work closely with you on many of the recommendations.

Senator **Wallop**. Dale, do you have any questions?

Senator **Bumpers**. Let me just ask one question. Does the Park Service have an estimate of our backlog of authorized land acquisitions for the national parks? How does the $200 million figure you recommend for acquisition address that?

Mr. **Mantell**. The backlog that the Park Service—the official backlog estimates of the Park Service—are roughly about $550 million. However, those amounts would only meet the authorized statutory ceilings that have been set by Congress, and the backlog is actually many millions of dollars more than that, especially when one considers Redwood National Park.

Over the last 4 years, with an average appropriation of $100 million for national park acquisition, some dent has been made in the backlog and is continuing to be made even this year. An additional amount of $100 million, for a total amount of $200 million a year, would allow the Park Service to continue to get at the backlog, but also allow them to look at situations where external threats are seriously damaging park resources and acquisition is the only viable alternative to protecting those resources.

It would also allow the country to start thinking again about protecting other special areas. So our figure of $200 million a year would continue to make progress in the backlog, even more progress, while allowing us to protect parks and think about adding additional parks.

Senator **Bumpers**. If you were the Director of the National Parks and you had a limited budget, would you use it for upgrading the parks and for acquisition? What do you think the No. 1 priority of the National Park Service ought to be?

Mr. **Mantell**. The No. 1 priority, we think, facing the National Park Service—there are a lot, and it's really hard to separate out—but civilization is quickly encroaching upon our national parks.

Senator **Bumpers**. I'm really having trouble hearing you. No wonder we can't run the country; we can't even get a sound system that works around here.

Mr. **Mantell**. There are several priorities that face the parks. If we had to choose one, it would be that civilization is fast encroaching upon our parks, and we must do something to protect the unique resources that exist within our parks.

There are many ways to go about protecting the land as part of the national parks, aside from actually acquiring them. And our report talks about a number of ways to address the backlog through other means than acquisition. And we are encouraged by Director Mott's attention to a variety of land protection techniques that could be done to include more land into our national parks.

Senator **Bumpers**. Do most problems occur where a park is surrounded by Federal land?

Mr. **Mantell**. Not necessarily. A variety of incentives to private landowners, to State and local governments, and technical assistance can help protect those lands. We call upon the Park Service to—actually we call upon the new ORRRC: Do a thorough assessment of the costs of the backlog and a thorough assessment of ways to protect lands less costly than outright acquisition.

Senator **Bumpers**. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator **Wallop**. Thank you all.

Let me just suggest that one of the problems we have with the backlog isn't only in the National Park Service—Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, a number of other things add substantially to that figure amd complicate our problem of doing it in its entirety.

I thank you both much. We will be seeing, I reckon, a good deal of each other over the course of the next couple of years. Thank you.

Mr. **Whyte**. Thank you, sir.

Senator **Wallop**. Now, we are pleased to welcome the Director of the National Park Service, Mr. Mott.

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM PENN MOTT, JR., DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. **Mott**. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, it is a pleasure to appear before you today to discuss a topic very dear to me—the future of the National Park Service. As you well know, I come to the office of Director of the National Park Service with a very definite vision of where I believe the future of the National Park Service lies.

I am delighted to see this very issue discussed in many corners of our society, and those of other nations. These discussions are now beginning to converge, to come into focus, as is evidenced by the efforts of the Conservation Foundation in their recent publication, "National Parks for a New Generation: Visions, Realities, Prospects," the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources as they develop and test their computer system to establish and monitor the status of parks and protected areas worldwide, and Secretary Hodel's new initiative to increase public awareness and involvement with all publicly owned land resources.

It is this type of creative thinking that will be of great help as we open up a dialog and draw on the creative energies and problem-solving approaches of all constituencies at the local, State, national, and international levels, to chart our course carefully for the future.

While the National Park Service has served this Nation's conservation community well since the establishment of Yellowstone National Park in 1872, the Service has also shared with other nations the value of parks and protected areas. In fact, through the International Parks Seminar, we have trained a large majority of the current directors of various park systems throughout the world. In the past we have clearly demonstrated leadership, and it is my intention that the National Park Service will, as we chart our course for the future, lead the way toward a greater understanding of such critical issues as the role of parks and protected areas in the fields of biological diversity, integrated regional and ecosystems planning, the systems approach to park management based on an adequate data base and understanding of the resources under our stewardship, and the evolution and survival of our cultures. We intend to provide positive, direct, and creative leadership, to speak to issues and set standards of administration and maintenance for others to follow.

Critical to the dialog that we are opening up, Mr. Chairman, is an ongoing discussion with you and other Members of Congress. Not only does each one of you impact policy as various legislative issues are deliberated, but it is the Congress that considers our budget requests, which directly influence policy. When we consider, Mr. Chairman, some budgets of other Federal bureaus, the National Park Service budget seems small, but the job it does from a quality-of-life point of view is quite large. In fact, I view it as an investment in our future, the future of our children, our grandchildren, and our great grandchildren.

As we begin to chart our course for the future, I believe that we need to look objectively at the state of the National Park System today with its 334 units—all of them "jewels in the crown"—and the 79.5 million acres of land visited by 332.5 million people, almost one-third of a billion people annually visiting units of the National Park System. We must decide what actions should be taken to preserve this legacy for future generations.

In that light, we must seriously begin to think about the relationship of Federal agencies with each other so that one agency does not take action that will harm the efforts and mission of another and that systems at the Federal, State and local levels relate to each other harmoniously.

I believe sincerely that a united, working-together, interrelated system can meet the ever-increasing demands of the visiting public without serious damage to the natural and cultural values of the park systems everywhere. We also need to be able to forecast and forestall those technological and environmental changes that could result in irreparable damage to the natural and cultural resources that are entrusted to our stewardship.

Further, we in the National Park Service need to rededicate ourselves to serving the millions of visitors that come to our national parks so that they can enjoy, appreciate, and take pride in our national heritage under quality conditions through a professionally established and well-trained group of interpreters with skills to bridge the gap between the urban culture of our society and the natural world.

To more carefully define these broad objectives, I have developed a 12-point plan that I believe is crucial to our future. I have developed these 12 points from my 40 years of experience as a practicing park professional and in consultation with the 10 regional offices of the National Park Service and the directorate in the Washington office. In fact, I discussed these specific points with Secretary Hodel as a basic condition of my acceptance of the position of Director of the National Park Service; and he has given me his full support.

At a meeting with the regional directors and constituency groups at Yellowstone National Park on June 6 of this year, I shared these ideas. At that time I challenged the regional directors and service center managers to begin making opportunities out of what may be perceived as problems. This is one of my personal philosophies in life that has stood me well, and I intend to encourage this philosophy during my tenure as Director of the National Park Service.

In my challenge to the regional directors and service center managers, I specifically asked that each one of them become personally involved in these 12 points by each selecting 1 point, approaching the issue creatively and developing an implementation plan. Once the 12 points have been fully developed, I will initiate some public involvement workshops to develop a stronger public awareness and support for the course we are charting. More importantly, I intend to ask the public for their help in achieving our goals. As important as is the public's awareness and support, Mr. Chairman, is the awareness and support of Members of Congress. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you and other members of the committee more of the specifics of my 12-point plan. And I intend to illustrate each one of these points with examples that I have observed in the few weeks that I have been here as Director.

First, develop a long-range plan or strategy to better protect our natural, cultural and recreational resources.

It is absolutely essential for us to develop broad new concepts for better protection of our resources over the next 50 to 100 years. The directions that we gain from these concepts should ultimately be viewed as the hallmark of contemporary thought concerning resource protection. It should be the very best that we can do. I expect us to involve the best minds, both within the Service and outside, to produce, in a highly professional manner, the concepts that will give focus to our management decisions and provide guidance for expanding our research efforts to meet critical needs.

There has been considerable discussion in connection with your park—Yellowstone National Park. Relative to the connection of that "mother park," we believe that through negotiations and through discussions, we can achieve those objectives. We believe that this is possible because a great deal of the land surrounding the national park belongs to the national forest, and I believe that we can work together to accomplish the objective of protecting that ecosystem for future generations to enjoy. And that's the way we intend to proceed.

It may be necessary, in some isolated cases, to acquire land, but for the most part I think it is a question of good, sound management on the part of all Federal agencies that are adjacent to the National Park Service, working together to achieve the objectives.

Second, pursue a creative, expanded land protection initiative.

Additional lands must be made available to meet public demands and round out the system for increased use and for the protection of this country's natural and cultural heritage. Some of this acquisition must be met through fee acquisition. However, I do feel that we have not used other innovative acquisition strategies involving States, other Federal agencies, and the private sector as extensively as we might. Changing economic conditions indicate that we must expand these avenues not only because of the limited funding we face, but because, frankly, these other not-for-fee acquisition possibilities offer us some real opportunities and challenges to provide for the public and the resources. This flexibility also could afford additional acreage without large expenditures of money.

We need to change our approach and attitude toward land acquisition strategies. To understand these new techniques, it may be desirable to have a workshop similar to the one you held, Mr. Chairman, as well as training opportunities for our personnel, so that they will be able to handle the management of these lands that may not be in fee title, as has been the condition in the past. We need also to reevaluate our ideas.

And I might say that we are now working on a new park area—one of the deficiencies that now exists in the National Park System—and that's the acquisition of a tallgrass prairie area. And I intend to bring to your attention the opportunity of how this can be acquired without total fee title, using all the techniques that I've indicated in this report.

Third, stimulate our interpretive and visitor services responsibilities for greater public impact.

For too long, we have not realized the power of interpretation in helping us achieve the mission of the Service. Every point of public contact represents a tremendous opportunity for us to build public support for the National Park Service and to educate our now predominantly urban population on the natural and cultural values now found in the National Park System but also how they can best appreciate these priceless assets and protect them for future generations to enjoy.

I feel we must emphasize the broader context within which the 334 units are managed. We must "weave" into this focus an understanding of how parks contribute to the quality of life and productivity in our country and throughout the world. Interpretation and visitor service functions must be infused with new ideas and a broader vision of parks.

Let me just give you one example of a thought that has occurred to me. We will be celebrating the 200th anniversary of the writing of the Constitution. I intend to make that the theme for our interpretive programs in that particular year. It seems to me that with a fine interpretive program, utilizing this as the theme, we can bring to the people of the United States an understanding and an appreciation of the meaning of the Constitution of the United States. And this is the kind of thing that I think we can do in addition to teaching people about the resources and the need for preservation and protection.

And I intend to use the urban recreation areas, such as Gateway and Golden Gate and the other urban areas, for the major areas of education as outdoor classrooms for the metropolitan population who visit these areas by the millions, and I think we can do an outstanding job in bringing to the urban population an understanding of the natural and cultural resources of this country and what they mean to the people of this country.

Fourth, effectively share our understanding of critical resource issues with our public.

Obviously we don't know all the answers to solve the critical resource issues we face, but we have an obligation to share what we do know. On many complex issues, such as historic preservation, acid deposition, critical habitat loss, and endangered species management, we can present these concerns in a context of public understanding. A public that understands and shares its understanding with our elected officials at all levels is a very powerful force.

We do not intend to present this information on one side or the other; really, to present the facts that we know and have today. And I think this kind of understanding is essential to getting the kind of support that we need for long-term preservation and protection of both our natural and our cultural resources, so that the public will come to the parks and the units of the Park System and have an enjoyable experience because they understand.

Fifth, increase public understanding of the role and function of the National Park Service.

We must communicate more effectively and more frequently with the public exactly what we are planning to do, as well as what we have accomplished. At the park level we must involve the local communities in what we are doing and how it relates to them. Perhaps a public statement at the beginning of each year that defines what we hope to accomplish for the year would be a good first step.

At the Washington level, I expect to present to the administration and to the Congress an annual report that summarizes the work and accomplishments of the Service that has occurred during the year, together with a financial statement indicating fiscal accountability. And I think that that's very important, and I would like to emphasize that we intend to show that we are fiscally responsible for the money that you make available to us, and that we are using it for good purposes and we are using it effectively.

I also would like to let you know that I will be encouraging each superintendent to provide me with a 1-page report every 6 months on what is taking place in that park unit. I plan to transmit these reports to Members of Congress who have units of the National Park System in their districts.

I think it's terribly important that Congress as well as the general public knows what is going on in the 334 units of the National Park System, not just what is taking place in some of our major park areas.

Sixth, enhance our ability to meet the diverse uses that the public expects of the National Park Service.

Obviously we cannot and should not provide for every use or every activity that the public would like to have in every unit of the National Park System. But my question is, "Are we being as flexible as we can, consistent withlegislation?" If we are already as flexible as we should be, then we may need closer involvement with others—States, Federal agencies, and the private sector—to provide some of the activities expected of us. By working with the park systems at the State and local levels, we will be able to identify where the most appropriate activities can be found; and again we need to let the public know where they can be served, rather than telling them no.

I think we have to recognize that with our older populations and with more buses coming into our national parks and units of the National Park System, that we need to recognize this fact and provide for those people in an effective and efficient way. We also need to consider the fact that there are many more single-parent families visiting the National Park System. What kind of facilities do they need? What kind of planning should we be doing to take care of their needs?

And so there are these changing conditions constantly, and we need to adapt to those changing conditions and do a very good job in keeping ahead of the changes that we see coming in the next 25 years.

Seventh, expand career opportunities for all employees.

In my judgment, the success that has been enjoyed by the National Park Service rests with the trust and respect that the American public has for the competent, dedicated employees of the Service. Everything we hope to do must build on the basic premise of fostering this tradition of obtaining and keeping a productive workforce.

We must ensure that our most capable employees are placed in the most demanding, challenging opportunities that the Service can offer. We must consistently seek new ways to challenge our employees to achieve excellence. And we must develop new ideas that will provide for career enhancement. I know there has been some excellent work done on this important subject and I intend to build on that.

At the present time, we have some problems in connection with mobility in the National Park Service. We haven't grown as rapidly as we have in the past, and it's necessary for us to develop new techniques so that we can stimulate our employees and so that they can feel good about their job and their opportunities.

Eighth, expand the role and involvement of citizen groups at all levels in the National Park Service.

In my experience, some of the best ideas and most stimulating thoughts for improvement, management, and development of parks have come from an interested and involved public. We need these groups and individuals to be involved in meaningful ways. They tend to recognize problems as opportunities. They see the world from a different perspective. In an era of accountability, the close involvement of citizen groups in our efforts to provide constructive criticism, support, and a different way of thinking can be invaluable.

We intend to do a great deal more to encourage citizen participation. I've seen at the State level what can be done by people who are involved at the National Park Service on a volunteer basis. Just this weekend, I attended the dedication of the Maggie Walker Home down in Richmond, VA. The entire program and the work done in that particular program was done through the effort of citizen involvement. That project could not have been culminated without their help and their support. We intend to use more people in that particular regard.

Ninth, seek a better balance between people management and resource management.

We have areas, in my judgment, that may be out of balance. It seems we unintentionally ignore the public in some areas and we err in others by ignoring the resource. I feel this lack of balance often creates issues that put the Service in adversarial roles with some of the public. In carrying this out, I will review closely our management philosophies for balance, visitor use, and resource protection, and the guiding research which provides the information and data to determine that balance.

We have in the past been very involved in resource protection. We have the staff and the personnel to carry out that work, but we have sometimes neglected the fact that we have to also manage people, by the millions, who come to the National Park Service. So we will be bringing a balance into our national program now of not only considering managing new resources, but also of managing the public.

Tenth, foster and encourage more creativity in the management, administration, and communication of the National Park Service.

Any organization that hopes to be successful during the rapid changes we face today must be extremely creative in the way it views its mission and in the way it carries out its responsibilities. The freedom to take calculated risks must be one of our guiding principles. We must evaluate all ideas, both old and new, for appropriateness to the situation we face. I will be initiating actions to make an overall assessment of this bureau's capability to carry out this mission creatively and with the flexbility that today's changes require.

I think it's extremely important that everyone in the Service, from the superintendents on up, makes decisions—doesn't procrastinate, but makes decisions. And so I will be giving a great deal of emphasis to this whole point of making what I call "calculated risk decisions." When the information is in and all the facts are available, make a decision. We may sometimes make the wrong decision, but in most cases we'll make the right decision, and by making calculated risk decisions, we can then begin to free ourselves up to think creatively, to solve problems.

Eleventh, develop a team relationship between concessioners and the Service.

I would like to develop a more cooperative relationship between the Service and the concessioners so that they become a part of the team and that their operations reflect the same quality and attention to the public's needs as is demonstrated by the Service itself.

I think it's extremely important that we work with the concessioners as a team effort to provide the services that the public requires. And I think that we can do this in a harmonious, constructive, creative way, and we intend to follow that procedure.

Twelve, provide for appropriate planning, design, construction, and maintenance of park facilities.

Over the past 5 years, the National Park Service has made inroads with congressional support, into bringing park facilities up to standards that visitors and employees have a right to expect. With the progress that has been made, comprehensive preventive maintenance becomes an essential continuing element in our management program, and I pledge to you that we will use the latest appropriate technology as well as a "creative systems" approach to effectively and efficiently accomplish this important task that represents 45 percent of our total operating budget in fiscal year 1985. Preventive maintenance is a must. Planning must meet the needs of the public and management simply and in harmony with the resources of the area. Costly, overdesigned buildings must not be allowed. This does not, however, mean that quality in construction will be sacrificed. To the contrary, we will constantly strive for quality not only in our planning and construction, but also in our management and maintenance of our units of the National Park System.

These are the key points that I believe are critical to the future of the National Park System. In the past, the National Park System has met its challenges with direction and commitment. However, times are changing rapidly, and with these changes we need to sharpen our skills, dedication and ability to meet the complexities of the future.

With your help, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, along with that of our constituencies and our public, I firmly believe that the future is bright and that we can pass on to future generations for their enjoyment and use the National Park System unimpaired.

This concludes my prepared statement, Mr. Chairman. I would be happy to respond to any questions that you or other members of the committee may have.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Mott follows:]

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM PENN MOTT, JR., DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS, RESERVED WATER, AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION, SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM.

JULY 18, 1985

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, it is a pleasure to appear before you today to discuss a topic very dear to me -- the future of the National Park System. As you well know, I come to the office of Director of the National Park Service with a very definite vision of where I believe the future of the National Park Service lies, and I am delighted to see this very issue discussed in many corners of our society, and those of other nations. These discussions are now beginning to converge, to come into focus, as is evidenced by the efforts of the Conservation Foundation in their recent publication, National Parks for a New Generation: Visions, Realities, Prospects, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) as they develop and test their computer system to establish and monitor the status of parks and protected areas worldwide, and Secretary Hodel's new initiative to increase public awareness and involvement with all publicly owned land resources. It is this type of creative thinking that will be of great help as we open up a dialogue and draw on the creative energies and problem-solving approaches of all constituencies, at the local, State, national and international levels, to chart our course carefully for the future.

While the National Park Service has served this Nation's conservation community well since the establishment of Yellowstone National Park in 1872, the Service has also shared with other nations the value of parks and protected areas. In fact, through the International Parks Seminar, we have trained a large majority of the current directors of various park systems throughout the world. In the past we have clearly demonstrated leadership, and it is my intention that the National Park Service will, as we chart our course for the future, lead the way toward a greater understanding of such critical issues as the role of parks and protected areas in the fields of biological diversity, integrated regional and ecosystems planning, the systems approach to park management based on an adequate data base and understanding of the resources under our stewardship, and the evolution and survival of our cultures. We intend to provide positive, direct and creative leadership to speak to issues and set standards of administration and maintenance for others to follow.

Critical to the dialogue that we are opening up, Mr. Chairman, is an ongoing discussion with you and other Members of Congress. Not only does each one of you impact policy as various legislative issues are deliberated, but it is the Congress that considers our budget requests, which directly influences policy. When we consider, Mr. Chairman, some budgets of other Federal bureaus, the National Park Service budget seems small; but the job it does, from a quality of life point of view, is quite large. In fact, I view it as an investment in our future, the future of our children, our grandchildren, and our great grandchildren.

As we begin to chart our course for the future, I believe that we need to look objectively at the state of the National Park System today with its 334 units and 79.5 million acres of land visited by 332.5 million, almost one-third of a billion, people annually. We must decide what actions should be taken to preserve this legacy for future generations. In that light, we must seriously begin to think about the relationship of Federal agencies with each other so that one agency does not take action that will harm the efforts and mission of another and that systems at the Federal, State, and local levels relate to each other harmoniously. I believe sincerely that a united, working-together, interrelated system can meet the ever increasing demands of the visiting public without serious damage to the natural and cultural values of park systems everywhere. We also need to be able to forecast and forestall those technological and environmental changes that could result in irreparable damage to the natural and cultural resources that are entrusted to our stewardship. Further, we in the National Park Service need to rededicate ourselves to serving the millions of visitors who come to our national parks so that they can enjoy, appreciate, and take pride in our national heritage under quality conditions and through a professionally established and well trained group of interpreters with skills to bridge th gap between the urban culture of our society and the natural world.

To more carefully define these broad objectives, I have developed a 12 point plan that I believe is crucial to our future. I have developed these 12 points from my 40 years of experience as a practicing park professional and in consultation with the ten regional offices of the National Park Service and the directorate in the Washington Office. In fact, I discussed these specific points with Secretary Hodel as a basic condition of my acceptance of the position of Director of the National Park Service; and he has given me his full support.

At a meeting with the Regional Directors and constituency groups at Yellowstone National Park on June 6 of this year, I shared these ideas. At that time I challenged the Regional Directors and Service Center Managers to begin making opportunities out of what may be perceived as "problems." This is one of my personal philosophies in life that has stood me well, and I intend to encourage this philosophy during my tenure as Director of the National Park Service. In my challenge to the Regional Directors and Service Center Managers, I specifically asked that each one of them become personally involved in these 12 points by each selecting one point, approaching the issue creatively, and developing an implementation plan. Once the 12-points have been fully developed, I will initiate some public involvement workshops to develop a stronger public awareness and support for the course we are charting. More importantly, I intend to ask the public for their help in achieving our goals. As important as is the public's awareness and support, Mr. Chairman, is the awareness and support of Members of Congress. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you and other Members of the Committee more of the specifics of my 12-point plan.

1. Develop a long-range plan or strategy to better protect our natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

It is absolutely essential for us to develop broad, new concepts for better protection of our resources over the next 50 to 100 years. The directions that we gain from these concepts should ultimately be viewed as the "hallmark" of contemporary thought concerning resource protection. It should be the very best that we can do. I expect us to involve the best "minds," both within the Service and outside, to produce, in a highly professional manner, the concepts that will give focus to our management decisions and provide guidance for expanding our research efforts to meet critical needs.

2. Pursue a creative, expanded land-protection initiative.

Additional lands must be made available to meet public demands and round out the system for increased use and for the protection of this country's natural and cultural heritage. Some of this acquisition must be met through fee acquisition. However, I do feel that we have not used other innovative acquisition strategies involving States, other Federal agencies, and the private sector as extensively as we might. Changing economic conditions indicate that we must expand these avenues not only because of the limited funding we face, but because, frankly, these other not-for-fee acquisition possibilities offer us some real opportunities and challenges to provide for the public and the resources. This flexibility also could offer additional acreage without large expenditures of money.

We need to change our approach and attitude toward land acquisition strategies. To understand these new techniques, it may be desirable to have a workshop -- similar to the one you held, Mr. Chairman -- as well as training opportunities or personnel exchanges to not only review the diversity of land protection strategies, but also how best to manage such lands. We need also to revalidate our ideas.

3. Stimulate our interpretive and visitor services responsibilities for greater public impact.

For too long, we have not realized the power of interpretation in helping us achieve the mission of the Service. Every point of public contact represents a tremendous opportunity for us to build public support for the National Park System and to educate our now-predominantly urban population on the natural and cultural values now found in the National Park System but also how they can best appreciate these priceless assets and protect them for future generations to enjoy.

I feel we must emphasize the broader context within which the 334 units are managed. We must "weave" into this focus an understanding of how parks contribute to the quality of life and productivity in our country and throughout the world. Interpretation and visitor service functions must be "infused" with new ideas and a broader vision of parks.

4. Effectively share our understanding of critical resource issues with our publics.

Obviously, we don't know all the answers to solve the critical resource issues we face, but we have an obligation to share what we do know. On many complex issues, such as historic preservation, acid deposition, critical habitat loss, and endangered species management, we can present these concerns in a context of public understanding. A public that understands, and shares its understanding with our elected officials at all levels, is a very powerful force.

5. Increase public understanding of the role and function of the National Park Service.

We must communicate more effectively and more frequently with the public exactly what we are planning to do as well as what we have accomplished. At the park level, we must involve the local communities in what we are doing and how it relates to them. Perhaps a public statement at the beginning of each year that defines what we hope to accomplish for the year would be a good first step.

At the Washington level, I expect to present to the Administration and to the Congress an Annual Report that summarizes the work and accomplishments of the Service that has occurred during the year together with a financial statement indicating our fiscal accountability.

I would also like to let you know that I will be encouraging each superintendent to provide me with a one-page report every six months on what is taking place in that park unit. I plan to transmit these reports to Members of Congress who have units of the National Park System in their districts.

6. Expand the role and involvement of citizen groups at all levels in the National Park Service.

   In my experience, some of the best ideas and most stimulating thoughts for improved management and development of parks have come from an interested and involved public. We need these groups and individuals to be involved in meaningful ways. They tend to recognize problems as opportunities. They see the world from a different perspective. In an era of accountability, the close involvement of citizen groups in our efforts to provide constructive criticism, support, and a different way of thinking can be invaluable.

7. Seek a better balance between people management and resource management.

   We have areas, in my judgment, that may be out of balance. It seems we unintentionally ignore the public in some areas and we err in others by ignoring the resource. I feel this lack of balance often creates issues that put the Service in adversary roles with some of the public. In carrying this out, I will review closely our management philosophies for balance, visitor use, and resource protection, and the guiding research which provides the information on data to determine that balance.

8. Enhance our ability to meet the diverse uses that the public expects of the National Park System.

Obviously, we cannot and should not provide for every use or activity that the public would like to have in every unit of the National Park System; but, my question is, "Are we being as flexible as we can, consistent with legislation?" If we are already as flexible as we should be, then we may need closer involvement with others (States, Federal agencies, and the private sector) to provide some of the activities expected of us. By working with the park systems at the State and local levels, we will be able to identify where the most appropriate activity can be found; and, again, we need to let the public know where they can be served, rather than telling them "no".

9. Expand career opportunities for all employees.

In my judgment, the success that has been enjoyed by the National Park Service rests with the trust and respect that the American public has for the competent, dedicated employees of the Service. Everything we hope to do must build on the basic premise of fostering this tradition of obtaining and keeping a productive workforce.

We must ensure that our most capable employees are placed in the most demanding, challenging opportunities that the Service can offer. We must constantly seek new ways to challenge our employees to achieve excellence. And, we must develop new ideas that will provide for career enhancement. I know that there has been some excellent work done on this important subject, and I intend to build on that.

10. Foster and encourage more creativity in the management, administration, and communication of the National Park Service.

Any organization that hopes to be successful during the rapid changes we face today must be extremely creative in the way it views its mission and in the way it carries out its responsibilities. The freedom to take "calculated risks" must be one of our guiding principals. We must evaluate all ideas, both old and new, for appropriateness to the situation we face. I will be initiating actions to make an overall assessment of this bureau's capability to carry out this mission creatively and with the flexibility that today's changes require.

11. Develop a team relationship between concessioners and the Service.

I would like to develop a more cooperative relationship between the Service and the concessioners so that they become a part of the team and that their operations reflect the same quality and attention to the public's needs as is demonstrated by the Service itself.

12. Provide for appropriate planning, design, construction, and maintenance of park facilities.

Over the past five years, the National Park Service has made inroads, with Congressional support, into bringing park facilities up to standards that visitors and employees have a right to expect. With the progress that has been made, comprehensive preventive maintenance becomes an essential, continuing element in our management program. And I pledge to you that we will use the latest appropriate technology as well as a "creative systems" approach to effectively and efficiently accomplish this important task that represents 45% of our total operating budget in fiscal year 1985. Planning must meet the needs of the public and management simply and in harmony with the resources of the area. Costly, overdesigned buildings must not be allowed. This does not, however, mean that quality in construction will be sacrificed. To the contrary, we will constantly strive for quality not only in our planning and construction but also in our management and maintenance of our units of the National Park System.

These are the key points that I believe are critical to the future of the National Park System. In the past the National Park Service has met its challenges with direction and commitment. However, times are changing rapidly, and with these changes we need to sharpen our skills, dedication, and ability to meet the complexities of the future. With your help, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, along with that of our constituencies and our public, I firmly believe the future is bright and that we can pass on to future generations for their enjoyment and use the National Park System unimpaired.

This concludes my prepared statement, Mr. Chairman. I would be happy to respond to any questions that you or other Members of the Committee may have.

Senator **Wallop**. Thank you, Director, for an energetic and thoughtful statement and a view of the Park System and the Park Service that has been rare, I think, in front of this committee; I don't know of many times when we have seen a 12-point plan—or any point plan presented for long-term overview of what takes place in our Park System.

It is clear that you've given a great deal of thought, and the thought has come from a level of experience that is also not often the case. I'd say that we look forward as a committee to working with you on a variety of these things. To the extent that lots of the points in your plan are prospective, and that we can be involved with you early in that process, Congress can be slightly more creative and slightly less obstructive—though there is no guarantee of either.

I think we would look forward to it.

Senator Bumpers.

Senator **Bumpers**. Mr. Mott, I'm going to talk to you about something that's really important—Hot Springs National Park.

Are you going to help us with the new proposed plan for that park and make sure that the community's feelings are respected in the final plan?

Mr. **Mott**. As you know, I'm planning to make a visit down there personally.

Senator **Bumpers**. Well, let's work it out right now. When are we going to go?

Mr. **Mott**. Well, the sooner we can get the schedule, I'll be willing to go. And then we'll come up with a solution.

Senator **Bumpers**. I'll call you today or tomorrow to set a date, and I'll go down there with you. Yellowstone, I guess, is considered to be the oldest park, but Hot Springs National Park was designated a reservation before Yellowstone National Park was created, and it's a real travesty what's happening down there. The people are upset; I'm upset.

But there's a remedy for it, and that's the reason I want you to see Hot Springs National Park, and I want to talk to you about the remedy which would cost the Park Service very little if that plan is implemented according to the way the citizens of Hot Springs want it. You probably know that we held that hearing down there the other night, and it was one of the largest ever held in Hot Springs. I just want your commitment that you are going to do everything you can to help us revitalize that park.

Mr. **Mott**. I think this offers an opportunity for some real creativity, and I think that we're up to that and I want to personally see the situation on the ground, with you and others, so that I can understand the problem, and I can assure you that we'll come up with a creative solution that will be beneficial to all parties concerned.

Senator **Bumpers**. Good. And on the way down, we'll talk about Buffalo National River Park, instead of talking about it now.

Mr. Chairman, I know that we're under time constraints here, so I'm going to submit a few questions to Mr. Mott in writing.

Senator **Wallop**. Actually, I invite the subcommittee to do that. But, Jeff, do you have a question?

Senator Bingaman. I want to compliment the Director for his statement and the obvious enthusiasm and vision that he is bringing to this position. It's very easy in the enormous Federal bureaucracy we have to take much more of a caretaker attitude rather than an aggressive, progressive attitude, which you're obviously taking. And I think it's rare to find a person who has a vision of things they want to do in a period of very tight budgets and really diminished budgets which I know you are facing.

So I just want to compliment you very much on what you're attempting here. Let me ask, if I could, what your thoughts are on what can be done by the Park Service to particularly protect cultural and archeological resources within the Park System.

In New Mexico, we've got Choco Canyon and Bandelier National Park, and we've had some very disturbing incidents of the archeological resources, the cultural resources being disturbed at these locations and throughout the Four Corners region. Is there something creative, as you point out, that could be done that is not now being done to ensure that those resources are also passed on to the next generation intact?

Mr. Mott. Well, I think there are ways to involve citizens in a program of that kind. I'm not familiar in detail with the situation that you're speaking about. I will be able to understand that a little better after I've been down there, but I believe very strongly in citizen participation.

I can give you an example of something I did in the East Bay Regional Park District when we were having a great deal of trouble with motorcyclists riding on the horse trails. So I decided that one of the ways to solve that problem was to bring participation by the citizens into that program.

And I thought, what would be a creative way of doing this? And I decided that the best way to prevent motorcyclists from riding on the horse trails in the East Bay Regional Park District lands was to involve the Hells Angels, because they were a group that people seemed to fear. And I thought, well, maybe I could get them to do something constructive for a change, and I involved them in this. And they became very, very interested in this and we did not have motorcycles on the horse trails, and they did it very constructively, I think.

Even something like the Hells Angels can be brought into a constructive program if we come about it in a creative, progressive way. And I think you're speaking of the destruction of archeological sites—I think we need to look at that and see how we can do it in a creative, constructive way, and I'll be glad to let you know what we come up with in the way of ideas.

Senator Bingaman. ~~I thank~~ you. I don't know that we want the Hells Angels staking out the archeological sites in New Mexico.

Mr. Mott. I'm sure that's true.

Senator Bingaman. Let me say, the Forest Service had a fairly creative approach, I thought, to vehicles going into our wilderness area in the Gila National Forest. They took the position that when they would find a vehicle in the wildeness area, they would require it to be towed out by mule, and that became a quite expensive process. And a couple of the mule skinners in the area were doing very well as a result of that policy. And I think you might explore that.

I do have a series of other questions. I know the chairman has another panel that he wants to get on with, and again I will just compliment you for your statement and your leadership in this area, and I'll stop at that.

Thank you.

Mr. MOTT. Thank you very much.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you, Senator Bingaman.

And, Bill, thank you very much. Clearly there will be long involvement with you on a lot of these things as you move to energize your Department and provide us with some changes. As you well know from your experience, not all change is always welcome. But it is better than staying where we are, and we'll work with you.

Mr. MOTT. We will be fleshing out these 12 points in more detail and we'll make copies of that information on how we're going to implement—because we are going to implement the plan.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you.

Now we have a panel with Mr. Derrick Crandall, president of the American Recreation Coalition: Mr. George Guenther, National Tour Association, who is accompanied by the Hon. Jim Santini, former Congressman from Nevada; Paul Pritchard, president of the National Park and Conservation Association; Mr. Rex Maughan, chairman of the Conference of National Park Concessioners; and Mr. Clay Peters, director of the National Parks Program of the Wilderness Society.

Derrick, would you begin?

STATEMENT OF DERRICK CRANDALL, PRESIDENT, AMERICAN RECREATION COALITION

Mr. CRANDALL. Thank you, Senator. It's a delight to be here and talk about something that we all feel a special passion, a special interest in, as we discuss our national parks and other national historic and cultural resources which constitute our National Park System today.

In a very real way, the areas that constitute this system are the glue that holds together the American public, young and old, eastern and western, rich and poor, male or female, and links us as well to this beautiful land that we dwell on.

Our park system today is a gift to present generations which reflects the vision of past generations of Americans, a vision we must emulate and build upon, and thus we're pleased to hear of Bill Mott's plans to marry a commitment to resource protection with new management ideas and new programs to make visits to our parks experiences of the highest quality; and we are further enthused by the opportunity available through the new President's Commission, to add to our rich national legacy in the parks and conservation field.

In my comments today, I'd like to focus on one aspect of the National Park System management, and that's the relationship between tourism and national parks.

From the time our first national park was created in 1872, people have been inspired to travel for a national park experience. Modern highways, jet aircraft, and other transportation advances have served to stimulate this urge. Total recreation visits to our park system in 1985 will be some 265 million, or an average of slightly more than one visit by every American.

For comparative purposes, the number of recreation visits to the system in 1976 was 217 million, a growth of 22 percent in a decade marked by escalating fuel prices, a sharp recession, and budgetary constraints.

And we can reasonably expect a continuing growth in visits as we look to the year 2000. A major factor will be the markedly higher numbers of those aged 65 or older who will be free to travel and visit our parks. We'll also be more educated as a nation, and many studies suggest that higher levels of educational attainment correlate with higher participation in outdoor recreation and park use.

Regional population migration will, in general, place more people where more of the Nation's public lands are—in the South and the West. And we can expect a sharp upturn in international visitors to our national parks. International visits have been constrained in recent years by the sharp climb in the dollar's value, making travel to the United States costly in historical terms.

This has tempered the real interest in seeing America among Europeans and Asians. I have both personal anecdotal information and data from the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration to support this assumption. As you know, Senator, ARC sponsored with the USTTA, a recreational tourism training seminar in Jackson Hole, WY, last year, and in addition to our primary audience of outfitters and dude ranch operators, campground owners, rafting company operators and more, we attracted prominent tourism wholesale tour brokers from Japan, France, and Germany. The excitement which resulted from that meeting has sparked several specific new promotions, and increased international visitation to your State.

USTTA recently completed a Gallup survey of potential travelers from major U.S. tourism markets abroad. The survey sought to find out what vacationers wanted to see and do while traveling, and then asked how well the United States fared in providing opportunities for these activities. Again and again, visiting scenic places was ranked at or near the top of vacationers' objectives. And the table in my testimony summarizes how well the United States qualifies in meeting that need.

When questioned about specific scenic places, a handful of national parks—Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, and the Rocky Mountain areas—were invariably cited.

The point of this review was to stress our conviction that visitation pressures at our most well-known national parks will grow and will exacerbate the notion and sometimes the reality that we are loving our parks to death. We share the new Park Service Director's concerns that visitor levels be controlled so that the resource is not impaired and, at times, this may necessitate locked gates.

Even for-profit recreation interests take this type of action, turning away customers when capacity is reached. Many ski areas, for example, limit lift ticket sales. They know that the quality of the experience for all skiers declines when too many people are on the mountain. And Disney World stops ticket sales when capacity is reached because long lines are not part of the quality experience they strive to offer their customers.

But treating visitation growth as a problem is wrong, and occurs only because we've failed to act effectively to channel, to control, and to use visitations creatively. Simply put, visits to the National Park System have occurred traditionally where and when the individuals choose, and those choices have focused on too few days in too few parks. We believe that visits to the National Park Service should be encouraged, not discouraged, in the next 15 years because these visits are important and have desirable consequences.

We also believe the National Park Service needs to undertake a more proactive role, encouraging the visits where and when they can be best accommodated. To do so will require a combination of new skills, new resources, and cooperation with interests other than the traditional core of park constituents.

The new skills required may be broadly described as people management skills. During the sixties and seventies, tremendous progress was made in improving our methodology for monitoring and protecting natural resources. The challenge of managing people dwarfs this resource management task, however, and has not been faced squarely by the Park Service. Indeed, the emphasis upon physical science expertise in the Park Service hiring has complicated this problem.

A competent, wildlife biologist is not provided with the training needed when a promotion makes him responsible for managing human wildlife, a very different phenomenon. One of the skills required is enhanced communications capabilities. Once a visitor is in a park's visitor center, many of the decisions on that visit are already finalized. More attention needs to be given to reaching out to potential park visitors through general and specialized media, furnishing through existing channels information on lesser known areas, and influencig visitation decisions.

I've cited some examples of recent work that the Park Service did cooperatively with ARC that you also know about. We believe that the Park Service needs some additional resources to be successful in channeling visitations. We don't believe the Park Service should be in the advertising business, but sparking stories and working with those in the tourism industry who influence leisure travel decisions will require resources not in the Park Service budget.

We believe a peak season surcharge levied at those areas where visitations are near or at capacity could dampen demand directly—although we suspect mildly, unless the surcharge was very stiff—while also generating earmarked resources to further the dual mandates of the Park Service—protection and visitor enhancement—by shifting visitation demand voluntarily.

Part of the answer to demand shifting will be a better recreation opportunity information system referred to by Senator Warner. We agree, and we believe that in a day and age of computers and cable TV and especially books, periodicals, toll free numbers, that we can do more in this area.

My closing comment involves the need for augmented contacts and discussions between the Park Service and the travel and tourism industry. In recent years, the Park Service has met periodically with an ad hoc group from the travel and tourism fields to discuss goals and mutual interests. We believe this type of liaison is useful and should be continued.

Within this group are tools the Park Service can employ to both encourage and enhance visitations so that quality park experiences can be had in the year 2000 by far more Americans and foreign visitors than today, while protecting the natural resource base which is the magnet for so much travel.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Crandall follows:]

STATEMENT BY DERRICK CRANDALL, PRESIDENT, AMERICAN RECREATION COALITION, ON NATIONAL PARKS, BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND RESERVED WATER OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE ON JULY 18, 1985

Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of this subcommittee, the American Recreation Coalition (ARC) welcomes the opportunity to offer its views on one of America's greatest treasures, our national park system. I am Derrick Crandall, President of ARC. ARC represents some 100 organizations and corporations with an active interest in recreation and conservation issues. Our members include recreation enthusiast groups and components of the recreation industry.

Many of us feel a special passion when we contemplate and discuss issues affecting our national parks and the other natural, historic and cultural resources which constitute our national park system today. In a very real way, these areas are indeed a part of the glue which joins together every American -- young or old, eastern or western, rich or poor, male or female -- and links us, as well, to the beautiful land in which we dwell. Our park system today is a gift to present generations which reflects the vision of past generations of Americans, a vision we must emulate and build upon.

We are thus pleased by the efforts of Bill Mott to marry a commitment to resource protection with new management ideas and new programs to make visits to our parks experiences of the highest quality. And we are further enthused by the opportunity available through the new President's Commission on American Outdoors to add to our rich national legacy in the parks and conservation field.

In my comments today, I want to focus on one aspect of the national park system management plan, and that aspect is the relationship between tourism and our national parks.

From the time our first national park was created in 1872, people have been inspired to travel for a national park experience. Modern highways, jet aircraft and other transportation advances have served to stimulate this urge. Total recreation visits to our park system in 1985 will be some 265,000,000, or an average of slightly more than one visit by every American. For comparative purposes, the number of recreation visits to the system in 1976 was 217,000,000. Thus, visitations have climbed 22% in a decade marked by escalating fuel prices, a sharp recession and budgetary restraints.

And we can reasonably anticipate a continuing growth in visits as we look to the year 2000. Our population will increase by about 15%, despite smaller families. A major factor will be markedly higher numbers of those 65 or older, many of whom will be avid travelers and visitors to national parks and recreation sites.

We'll be more educated, as a nation, and many studies suggest that higher levels of educational attainment correlate with higher participation in outdoor recreation and park use.

Regional population migration will, in general, place more people where more of the nation's public lands are -- in the South and West.

And we can expect a sharp upturn in international visitors to our national parks. International visits have been constrained in recent years by the sharp climb in the dollar's value, making travel to the U.S. costly in historical terms. This has tempered real interest in "seeing America" among Europeans and Asians. I can cite both personal anecdotal information and data from the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration to support this assumption. ARC sponsored a Recreational Tourism Training Seminar in Jackson Hole, Wyoming in May 1984. In addition to an audience of outfitters and dude ranch operators, campground owners and rafting companies and more, we attracted prominent wholesale tour brokers from Japan, France and Germany. The excitement which resulted was astonishing and the program has sparked several specific new promotions.

USTTA recently completed a Gallup survey of potential travelers from major U.S. tourism markets abroad. The survey sought to find out what vacationers wanted to see and do while traveling, and then asked how well the U.S. fared in providing opportunities for these activities. Again and again, visiting scenic places was ranked at or near the top of vacationers' objectives. The following table provides some sense of the findings:

COUNTRY	% OF VACATIONERS SAYING VISITING SCENIC PLACES IS OF MOST IMPORTANCE	% SAYING U.S. IS AN APPROPRIATE DESTINATION FOR VISITING SCENIC PLACES
Australia	74	68
France	87	76
Germany	87	67
Japan	72	46
U.K.	83	76

When questioned about specific scenic places, a handful of national parks -- Grand Canyon, Yellowstone and "Rocky Mountain areas" -- were invariably cited.

The point of this review is to stress our conviction that visitation pressures at our most well-known national parks will grow and will exacerbate the notion -- and sometimes the reality -- that we are loving our parks to death. We share the new NPS director's concerns that visitor levels be controlled, so that the resource is not impaired. And at times, this may necessitate locked gates. Even for-profit recreation interests will take this type of action, turning away customers when capacity is reached. Many ski areas limit lift ticket sales. They know that the quality of the experience for all skiers declines when too many people are on the mountain. And Disney World stops ticket sales when capacity is reached because long lines are not part of the quality experience they strive to offer their customers.

But treating visitation growth as a problem is wrong and occurs only because we have failed to act effectively to channel, to control and to use visitations creatively. Simply put, visits to the national park system have occurred traditionally where and when the individuals choose, and those choices have focused on too few days in too few parks.

We believe that visits to the national park system should be encouraged, not discouraged, in the next fifteen years because these visits have important and desirable consequences, including:

- heightened awareness of nature;
- local community economic benefit; and
- improved mental and physical well-being.

But we also believe that the National Park Service needs to undertake a more proactive role, encouraging visits where and when they can be accommodated best. To do so will require a combination of new skills, new resources and cooperation with interests other than the traditional core of park constituents.

The new skills required may be broadly described as people management skills. During the 1960's and 1970's, tremendous progress was made in improving our methodology for monitoring and protecting our natural resources. We have made progress toward protection of endangered species and protection of water and air qualities, although we all hope and expect still more progress will come in the years ahead. The challenge of managing people dwarfs this resource management task, however, and has not been faced squarely by NPS. Indeed, the emphasis upon physical science expertise in NPS hiring has complicated this problem. A competent wildlife biologist is not provided with the training needed when a promotion makes him responsible for managing human wildlife, a very different phenomena.

One of the skills required is enhanced communications capabilities. Once a visitor is in a park's visitor center, many of the decisions on that visit are already finalized. More attention needs to be given to reaching out to potential park visitors through general and specialized media, furnishing through these channels information on lesser-known areas and influencing visitation decisions. The serendipity of this approach is that the NPS can place valuable information -- which already exists -- into the hands of park system visitors without incurring the expense of printing and distribution.

An example of this outreach occurred two years ago, when the publishers of Trailer Life magazine, ARC, the Forest Service and NPS combined energies and resources to produce a colorful, 40-page guide to our national parks and national forests which reached some 600,000 U.S. households at virtually no cost to the Federal government. The guide emphasized lesser-known areas and non-peak season visitations. Another example is our joint effort with the NPS to increase public awareness of the offerings of Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota, one of our newer mainland U.S. gems.

We also believe NPS needs some additional resources to be successful in channelling visitations. NPS should not be in the advertising business, but sparking stories and working with those in the tourism industry who influence leisure travel will require resources not now in the NPS budget. Moreover, there appears to be a belief within those agencies and Congressional committees with budget responsibilities that public information programs are the safest and easiest budget cuts. We believe a peak season surcharge levied at those areas where visitations are near or at capacity could dampen demand (mildly, we suspect, unless the surcharge were very stiff) while also generating earmarked resources to further the dual mandates of NPS -- protection and visitor enhancement -- by shifting visitation demand.

Part of the answer to demand shifting will be a better recreation opportunity information system, an endeavor NPS must aid but cannot singlehandedly develop. Information about public and private sector recreation resources must be made more accessible to individuals and families -- a very real possibility in today's age of computers and toll-free numbers, cable TV and specialty books and periodicals. I have special hopes that the new commission will undertake a thorough investigation of what is feasible in this area.

My closing comment in the field of tourism and national parks focuses on the need for augmented contacts and discussions between NPS and the travel and tourism industry. In recent years, NPS has met periodically with an ad hoc group from the travel and tourism field to discuss goals and mutual interests. We believe this type of liaison is useful and should be continued. Within this group are tools NPS can employ to both encourage and enhance visitations so that quality park experiences can be had in the year 2000 by far more Americans and foreign visitors than today while protecting the natural resource base which is the magnet for so much travel.

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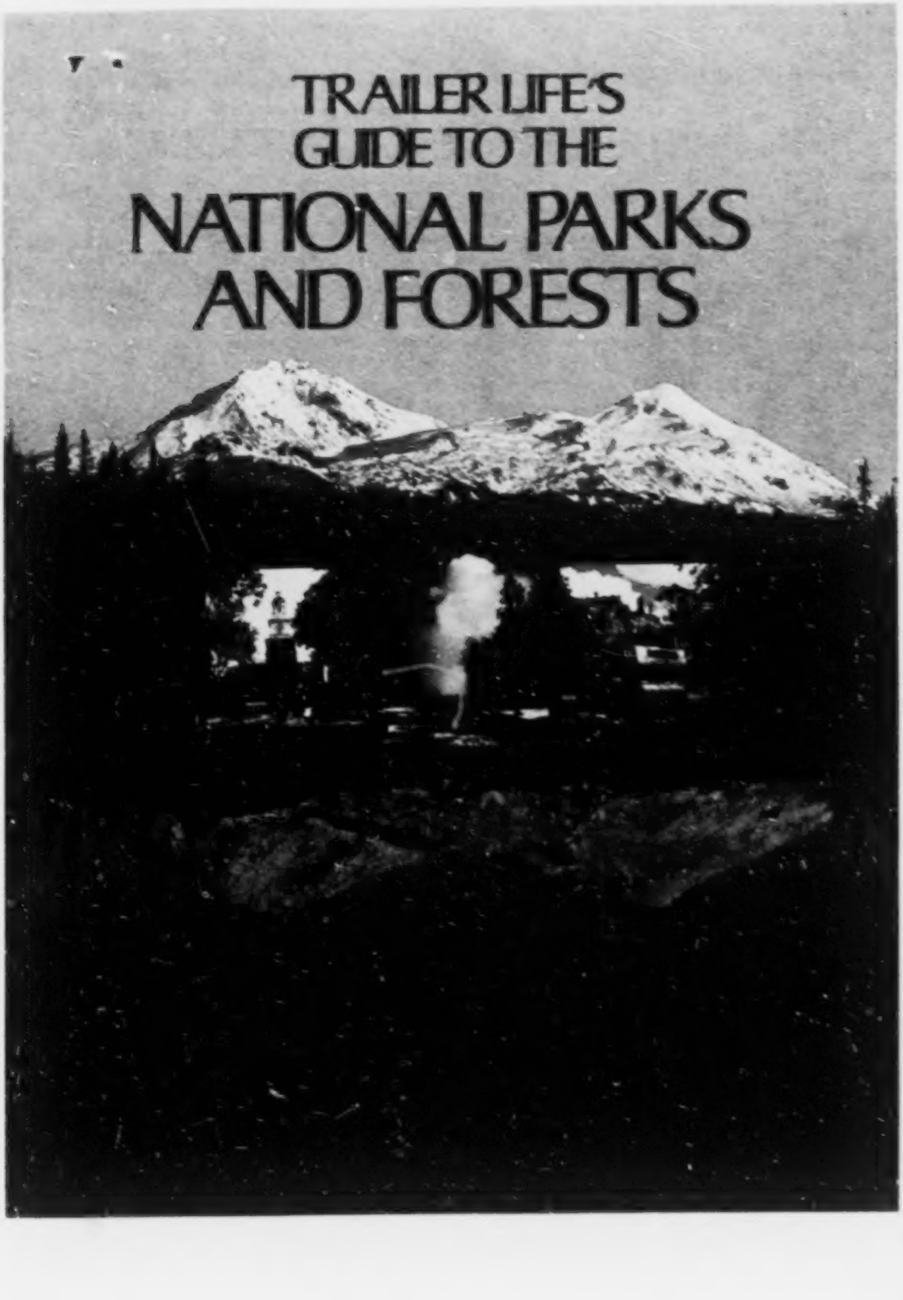


TRAILER LIFE'S
GUIDE TO THE
NATIONAL PARKS
AND FORESTS

THE PUBLIC LANDS-OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE

On March 1, 1872, when Congress established Yellowstone National Park in the territories of Montana and Wyoming, America and the world became the beneficiaries of the first national park in history. Designated by Congress "as a public park or pleasuring ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people," Yellowstone became the model for future parks and forests in the United States and abroad. From that first landmark park, the American people have engaged in an intense love affair with these scenic treasures – preserved and dedicated for themselves and future generations.

A country "for the people" is unmistakably the aim of America's national forest and park systems. Nowhere in the world is there such a diverse and stunning collection of recreation lands set aside for public enjoyment than these U.S. model systems. Quality is generously matched with quantity as these public lands encompass 335 national parks comprising 79 million acres of monuments, preserves, lakeshores, seashores and riverways, and 155 national forests on a whopping 191 million acres.

RVers will find a **National Forest System** or **National Park Service** vacation spot within a day's drive of almost any point in the continental United States. The National Forest System, managed by the Forest Service (FS) of the Department of Agriculture offers many remote and untouched areas for public discovery. The Gifford Pinchot National Forest in southwestern Washington offers visitors a look at unpredictable Mount St. Helens, one of the world's remaining active volcanoes. From here you can venture to the dramatic Hells Canyon on three national forests in Oregon and Idaho. Walk in the towering shadows of the Giant Sequoias in the Sierras of California's Sequoia National Forest; ride the Narrow Gauge Railroad through the San Juan National Forest of Colorado; or drive through the folklore majesty of the Great Smoky Mountains in North Carolina and Tennessee. With 170 developed ski areas in the national forests, cold-weather enthusiasts will find their winter haven among these mountain areas.

And the southeast certainly has its share of exciting recreational areas. "An exotic and gentle land" could easily serve as the motto of the Monongahela National Forest in the rugged hills and mountains of West Virginia. The scenery and camping facilities of the Ozark National Forest in Arkansas have attracted RVers for many years. But, it wasn't until 1973 that visitors began to take advantage of the beautiful vistas found beneath the forest, when Blanchard Springs Caverns were first opened to the public. Two guided trails, including one suitable for use by handicapped visitors, weave among the magnificent rock formations. Evening presentations in a star-studded outdoor amphitheater provide insight into the natural history and culture of the Ozarks.

The National Park Service (NPS), created in 1916, offers equally awe-inspiring recreation lands. A sampling of every imaginable terrain has been safeguarded for the public's enjoyment among NPS lands. From the mile-deep Grand Canyon in Arizona, one of the "wonders of the world," to the popular Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Francisco and Marin counties, to the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site in Hyde Park, New York, the NPS, regulated by the Department of the Interior, is rich with scenic and historic sites. With history book in hand, you can relive some of the most memorable U.S. events, such as the surrender of General Robert E. Lee and the Confederacy's largest field army to Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant at the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park. For Indian folklore buffs, there are a number of parks and historical sites dedicated to the tribal preservation of lands and people who echo the days of a different dawn in North America. Walk in the footsteps of our founding fathers in Philadelphia, trace the roots of democracy along the Freedom Trail in Boston, or follow the bold adventures of the mountain men across the Rockies.

This is your land, appropriated with great labor, maintained with great love for you to use, enjoy and safeguard for the generations to follow.

Planning a Trip to the National Parks and Forests

A letter or call to the office of your point of entry is a good first step in planning an enjoyable trip. Park and forest personnel are always glad to offer advice and provide information. Rangers suggest that tourists consider the high- and low-season months when planning a visit to a particular area. This consideration may well decide the kind of vacation you will have.

Spring and fall, the low seasons (or shoulder seasons), are highly recommended to avoid the wall-to-wall crowds at some of the more popular areas. In the low seasons, you will find plenty of elbow room and peace and quiet on the nature trails and in the campgrounds – even at popular year-round Yosemite National Park or Arapahoe National Forest where the famous Colorado ski resort of Winter Park is located. Many parks and forests are open year-round with fewer services available in winter, but greater opportunity for exploration. All national forests in the Snowbelt offer outstanding facilities for cross-country skiing, ice fishing and snowmobiling while 20 national park areas permit snowmobiling.

Robert Smith

To avoid crowds further, visit the national forest areas that surround national parks – often these areas are overlooked treasures, passed by for big-name recreation spots. Usually national forests surround a national park. An ideal arrangement is to camp in the national forest grounds and from there visit the surrounding areas and national park sights. Regrettably out of proportion, there are a few parks that are sorely overvisited, producing crowds and congestion, while a great many are underutilized areas of tremendous beauty and recreation possibilities.

The NPS and FS are concerned with unequal distribution of tourists at their facilities. Some of the most-visited parks and forests are attempting to reduce crowds to maintain the ecology of the environment, rather than allowing additional urban influences to further endanger this wild and beautiful country.

In order to maintain the natural state of the parks, it is forbidden to feed wild animals or to cut wood or pick flowers from the area. Although domestic pets are permitted in selected parks, they must be leashed. The natural balance of the wild is strictly guarded in the national parks and most do not permit firearms; those that do require that they be broken down and encased. On the other hand, on national forest lands most of the above rules do not apply, since the purpose for this land is resource use as well as recreational sightseeing.

Entrance and recreation-use fees are charged at selected parks. Single-visit entrance fees range from $1 to $3 per private passenger vehicle. Bus passengers pay 50 cents per person. For those who plan to visit a number of parks during one calendar year, the Golden Eagle Passport, offered by the NPS, offers unlimited park entrances for $10. It is available by mail or in person. For those over 62 years old, a lifetime Golden Age Passport is offered. This passport gives free access to all the national parks and is available by in-person application at any national park office. Also offered is the Golden

Comb line & Halftone

Access Passport for those who are blind or permanently disabled.

To make your stay at the park or forest of your choice more convenient, concession-operated facilities are available. Fees for these facilities, including recreational vehicle and tent spaces, are charged by the concessioners and are not federal recreation-use fees. Some accommodations may be reserved, but generally RV spaces are offered on a first-come-first-served basis. Most campground areas offer limited utility connections and some have sanitary dumping stations. While the majority of national park campgrounds can accommodate most large RVs, the NPS advises that most of their campground spaces are limited to vehicles 22 feet in length.

The camping season usually runs from May 30 through Labor Day weekend, but in milder climates, selected campgrounds have a longer season and others are open year-round. Several campgrounds, like those of Death Valley National Monument, cater to winter travelers who find Death Valley's "off season" the best season. Some campgrounds may be unofficially open year-round, but after the regular season, water is turned off, flush toilets are locked and garbage is not collected – leaving the camper to his own devices and on his best behavior.

If you plan to pursue overnight hiking, fishing or hunting, be certain to contact park and forest personnel in advance to receive necessary permits or information regarding special restrictions in effect. A non-fee permit is required for overnight hiking in some wilderness areas in both national parks and forests.

And whether visiting a remote wilderness area or a more-populated park or forest, always secure your motorhome or trailer and tow vehicle before leaving camp. Store valuables out of sight, and in the backcountry where wildlife may be evident, be certain to place food out of reach. Check with the rangers for more specific instructions.

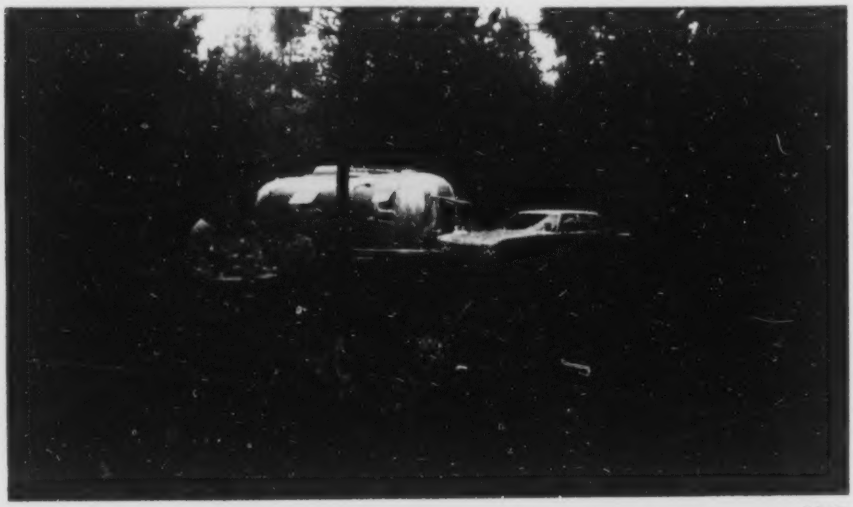
A vast selection of private campgrounds are located throughout the United States, many of them within easy driving distance of the national parks and forests. (Consult your *Trailer Life RV Campground & Services Directory* for a complete list.) Many visitors choose private parks for overnight facilities and frequent the national parks and forests as destination sites.

The national parks and forests offer some general rules for visitors to follow:

1. Place tents and trailers only in designated spaces.
2. Occupy your campsite the first night you arrive, and then don't leave it unoccupied for more than 24 hours at a time.
3. Don't camp in day-use areas such as picnicking sites, swimming areas or scenic view points.
4. A maximum of 14 consecutive days, or as posted, will determine your length of stay at any one campground.
5. Only resident campers are permitted inside campgrounds during established night hours (usually posted).

To provide a more detailed sample of the parks and forests awaiting the vacationing RVer, the following region-by-region guide will emphasize lesser-known areas of unspoiled and uncrowded beauty. The national parks and forests, for this purpose, will be divided roughly into eight regions: Northwest, Mountain West, Midwest, North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South, Frontier West and West.

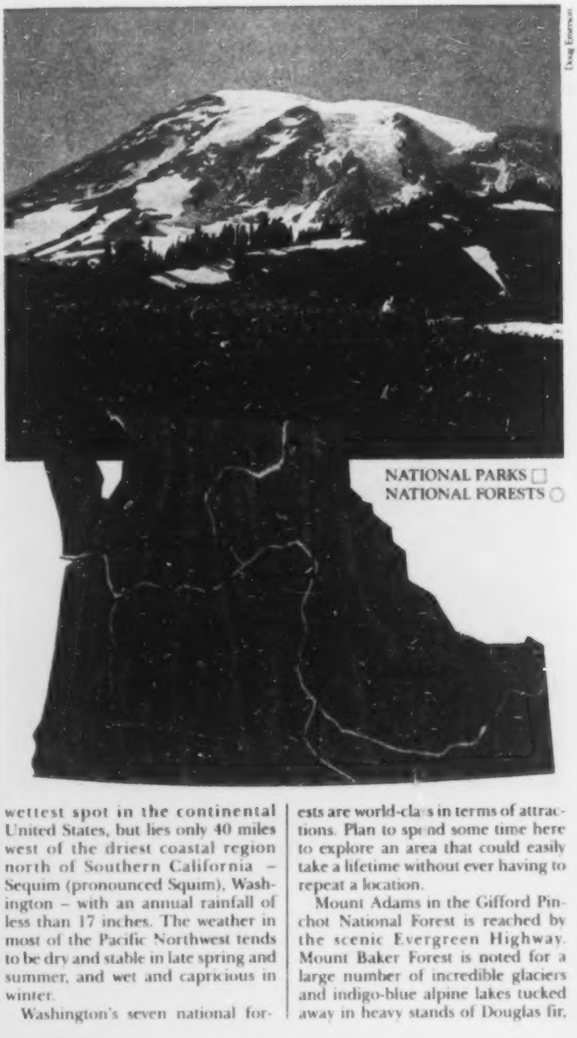
Through the joint efforts of the American Recreation Coalition, the National Park Service and the Forest Service, this special supplement has been compiled by Contributing Editor Richard Carroll and the staff of Trailer Life to better acquaint you with the incredible beauty and diversity of our parks and forests.



Robert Smith

NORTHWEST

The emerald mountains and verdant valleys of the lush Pacific Northwest are a one-of-a-kind experience on the North American continent. Idaho, Washington and Oregon combine tropical-like greenery, alpine meadows, not-so-dormant volcanoes and deep, dramatic gorges beneath cinnamon-colored cliffs. Hells Canyon in three national forests of Oregon and Idaho is a perfect example. The Snake River's passage through this canyon has created the deepest gorge in North America as well as exposing some of the most unique rock formations on earth. Scenic drives and boat charters provide easy access to this land of cool mountain lakes and a churning river that is respected by all who see it. Licensed guides are available to take visitors on a thrilling float trip down the Snake. The canyon at one point is 7,900 feet deep and 10 miles wide. Along the Columbia River gorge near Portland, Oregon, Multnomah Falls, second highest in the nation, plunges down a cliffside in the Mount Hood National Forest.



WASHINGTON

When driving through Washington the snow-covered peaks seem to be always in sight. You can pick wild huckleberries in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, or wander in the dense ferns, moss and lichens of the Olympic National Forest, one of the world's few temperate rain forests.

Because of the unusual physical geography of Washington, it is best to understand the climate, which is curiously diverse. The climatic zones of the state assume an essentially north-south orientation. Air, thick with moisture, reaches the state from the west and has a cooling effect in summer and a warming influence in winter. Along the coastline, precipitation is excessive. At one point in the south foothills of the Olympic Mountains, the rainfall exceeds 190 inches a year. The situation is so extreme that Mount Olympus is the wettest spot in the continental United States, but lies only 40 miles west of the driest coastal region north of Southern California – Sequim (pronounced Squim), Washington – with an annual rainfall of less than 17 inches. The weather in most of the Pacific Northwest tends to be dry and stable in late spring and summer, and wet and capricious in winter.

Washington's seven national forests are world-class in terms of attractions. Plan to spend some time here to explore an area that could easily take a lifetime without ever having to repeat a location.

Mount Adams in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest is reached by the scenic Evergreen Highway. Mount Baker Forest is noted for a large number of incredible glaciers and indigo-blue alpine lakes tucked away in heavy stands of Douglas fir.

many up to 200 feet in height. Seattle is a great get-away city to Snoqualmie National Forest, a region of one million acres where you can pull up on a high ridge overlooking verdant meadows, breathtaking lakes, fast-moving fishing streams and a rugged wilderness that will thrill and delight RVers of all ages.

The North Cascades National Park Complex is another area where time is needed to thoroughly digest the essence of this breathtaking scenery. The area's 683,000 acres encompass some 318 glaciers and the Ross Lake and Lake Chelan National Recreation areas. The Ross Lake area divides the two units of the North Cascades National Park and provides the corridor for the popular North Cascades Highway.

A drive through the park area will bring a quick realization of why the majestic Cascades rank among the world's great mountain ranges and has been called "the most scenic mountain drive in Washington." There are many overlook stops along the highway where you can absorb the splendor and serenity of the rugged but hypnotic range. The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail crosses the highway at Rainy Pass, elevation 4,860 feet. The Rainy Lake National Recreation Trail, which begins near the rest stop and offers a one-mile walk to a sub-alpine lake, is also ideal for wheelchairs. Forest Service campgrounds lie along or near the highway east and west of the park complex. To reach the North Cascades, drive Washington State Route 20, the North Cascades Highway, from Burlington on the west and Twisp on the east, or take Washington 542 from Bellingham. (Remember that bears are attracted by food odors. Lock foodstuffs and ice chests in your vehicle at night. Drive cautiously and watch for pedestrians and hikers on the road shoulders, rocks in the roadway, wildlife and careless drivers.)

Mount Rainier National Park, considered equally beautiful by many, contains 34 thundering waterfalls, 62 crystalline lakes and 40 or so remarkable glaciers. At 14,410 feet, Mount Rainier is an awesome sight. Paradise Park, located at 5,400 feet on the mountain's south slope, receives a great deal of snow, but even so, the road to Paradise is usually kept open in winter.

Back in town take advantage of Seattle, one of the nation's most underrated cities. If approaching the city via Highway 90 from Idaho, Spokane or the Yakima Indian Reservation, you will experience the Snoqualmie National Forest. Interstate 5 from Canada and Vancouver affords a view of the marvelous Puget Sound Waterway, numerous islands and a stretch of landscape that is truly magnificent. On the western side of the city is the Olympic Mountain Range; on the east are the Cascades; to the south looms snowcapped Mount Rainier and to the north is Mount Baker, 10,778 feet high.

Pioneer Square is where Seattle's roots are planted. The settlers of 1851 moved to the square from their original site on the west side of Elliott Bay. Then the Gold Rush changed Seattle from a small lumber and sawmill town to a major manufacturing and shipping center almost overnight. The Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park in Pioneer Square documents the local history and further adds to its charm.

OREGON

Oregon, adjacent to Washington, continues to offer wonderful journeys into lush, verdant landscapes. U.S. Route 97 or State Route 31 from Bend, Redmond or Sisters, Oregon, leads to Lava Butte Geological Area in the Deschutes National Forest. Here NASA astronauts practiced their "moon walks" because of similarity of terrain. An observatory is at hand for viewing the solidified lava from volcanic eruptions.

Doug Emerson

Crater Lake National Park, Oregon

The Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area is another unusual attraction. The Dunes provides visitors the opportunity for hiking, camping, beachcombing and a variety of other activities. The area extends for some 50 miles along Oregon's Pacific coast, and some reach heights up to 300 feet near Reedsport. These giant, windblown sand dunes also stretch inland for up to three miles. The Dunes are located within the Siuslaw National Forest, west of Eugene and Corvallis.

After observing miles of sand dunes you will probably appreciate a lake so blue it will make you blink. Crater Lake's indigo waters are the deepest in the United States at 1,932 feet, second deepest in Western Hemisphere and sixth in the world. Crater Lake National Park lies in the heart of Mount Mazama, an ancient volcanic peak that collapsed centuries ago. Highway 62 and the south access road lead to a year-

Doug Emerson

Hikers enjoy the perfect lunch break at Iceberg Lake, Glacier National Park, Montana.

round lake view, but the north entrance road and Rim Drive are closed from mid-October to July. The visitor center provides information, assistance and many activities. Camping is allowed only at Mazama and Lost Creek campgrounds, or in the backcountry by permit. Campgrounds open when snow melts in early summer and are closed by the first snow in the fall. Mazama Campground, eight miles south of Rim Village, has 198 wooded sites and a dump station.

Three other national sites in Oregon that should be included in your visit are Fort Clatsop, where the Lewis and Clark Expedition camped; Oregon Caves National Monument, a series of caves formed by dissolving marble bedrock; and John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, with headquarters in John Day. All are part of America's historical and natural attractions.

IDAHO

Of all states in the Union, Idaho is one of the lesser-traveled, less-populated and yet is an oasis within a modern world where you will enjoy a whopping 12 national forests, special scenic and primitive areas, wild and scenic rivers such as the Clearwater River, Middle Fork; the Saint Joe River in the Idaho Panhandle Forest; the Salmon River, which is noted for whitewater and is known as the "River of No Return," and the Snake River, which forms the state line between Oregon and Idaho and flows between the Payette and Nez Percé national forests in Idaho and the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in Oregon. Idaho is a place to get away from the daily routine of life and have a chunk of nature all to yourself.

You could begin by bringing your boat and visiting the Panhandle Forest and Priest Lake. This gorgeous expanse of water is set in a remote area accessible only by boat. Take State Route 57, 40 miles north of Priest River town. Driving from Challis into the two-million-acre Challis National Forest and to the Stanley Basin Scenic Drive affords a view of thickly forested mountains, serpentine rivers and sleepy lakes. North Fork and Lewis & Clark highways offer similar scenery. The Payette National Forest in McCall is so attractive that the visitors who do come here fall in love with the area and stay on. The Payette Lakes at McCall are vivid oil paintings where the artist went wild splashing blues and greens everywhere.

If you want to relax a bit, scan the lake with an eye out for "Charlie," the lake monster, who once was seen bobbing about. The region has a large number of campgrounds in the forest and several nearby towns, such as McCall, Cascade, Council, New Meadows and Weiser.

The Sawtooth National Forest is the home of the internationally known Sun Valley Ski Resort and the region where Ernest Hemingway spent a great deal of his life. The state also claims a piece of Yellowstone National Park.

Craters of the Moon National Monument at Arco, a 75-square-mile area of lava formations, has a seven-mile loop road open from late April to mid-November while the visitor center is open year-round. Open from May to October the campground is convenient for most RVs.

Historically, the Nez Perce National Park – a series of sites located in the counties of Clearwater, Lewis and Nez Perce – tells the proud story of the Nez Perce and Chief Joseph. (The visitor center is at Spalding.)

MOUNTAIN WEST

The Mountain West is as vast and rugged a region as you're likely to encounter anywhere in the world. Diversity here means South Dakota's Badlands, a chronicle of the earth's history; Yellowstone National Park with bountiful wildlife and mesmerizing geyser activity in Wyoming, seven national forests in Utah with millions of acres of wilderness lands; or North Dakota's Knife River Indian Villages, site of 300 years of Indian occupation.

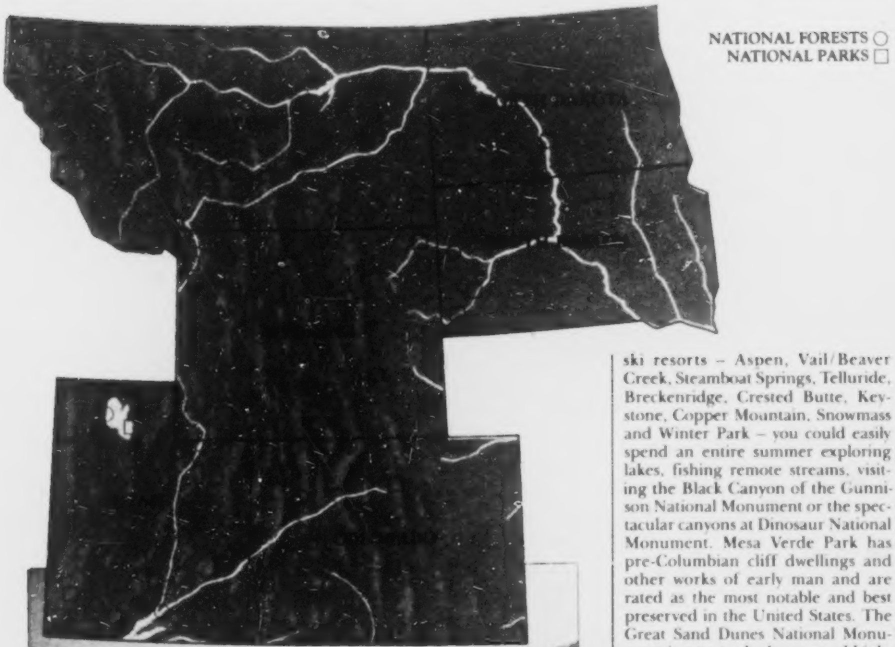
MONTANA

Montana boasts 10 national forests and the intriguing route of Lewis and Clark over the Lolo Trail across the Bitterroot Mountains in the Lolo and Clearwater National Forests. Campsites and other historic points along their route are marked by interpretive signs.

Walk in the footsteps of the Nez Perce Indians, whose trails across the mountains are still visible. Pan for gold at German Gulch in the Deerlodge National Forest where once a thousand prospectors staked claims, or photograph a sunset at Granite Peak (12,799 feet), the highest point in Montana. Your senses will be sharpened by the vividly short summers, followed by rain, and then blankets of snow that remain till the sun-splashed mountains become bright with wildflowers in the spring.

Besides the forest resources, Montana is also home to Glacier National Park, with its ruggedly beautiful landscape that includes nearly 50 glaciers. Also found here is a wide variety of wildlife including the bald eagle which, to the delight of visitors, concentrates in the area during the fall for the salmon spawning. Big Hole National Battlefield near Wisdom commemorates one of the major battles in the epic 1877 journey of the Nez Perce Indians led by Chief Joseph in the flight from the army to avoid placement on a reservation. Also involving a clash between Indians and the army is Custer Battlefield National Monument on the Crow Reservation where the famous battle of the Little Bighorn took place between companies of the 7th U.S. Cavalry, led by Lt. Col. George Custer, and several thousand Sioux and Cheyenne warriors. Later Western history is preserved at Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, in Deer Lodge, home of one of the largest and best-known 19th-century ranches in the country.

The spectacular symmetry and beauty of the Rockies are reflected in Beaver Pond, Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado.



COLORADO

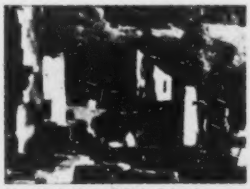
You can drive through clouds to the crest of Pikes Peak in the Pike National Forest, Colorado, via one of the world's highest roads. It is so beautiful that you must bring a pair of binoculars to better enjoy the moment, and a camera to relive the experience. Forty-six camp and picnic sites are scattered throughout the forest. Nearby cities include Colorado Springs, Cripple Creek and Denver.

Pike National Forest is only one of 10 forests in Colorado. Although the Rocky Mountain state is often only thought of in terms of its excellent ski resorts – Aspen, Vail/Beaver Creek, Steamboat Springs, Telluride, Breckenridge, Crested Butte, Keystone, Copper Mountain, Snowmass and Winter Park – you could easily spend an entire summer exploring lakes, fishing remote streams, visiting the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument or the spectacular canyons at Dinosaur National Monument. Mesa Verde Park has pre-Columbian cliff dwellings and other works of early man and are rated as the most notable and best preserved in the United States. The Great Sand Dunes National Monument is among the largest and highest in the United States. And if you like to study fossils, the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument holds a variety of seeds, leaves and insect fossils.

The reconstructed Bents Old Fort National Historic Site gives visitors a glimpse into life at a frontier fur-trading post. Colorado National Monument preserves colorful sandstone monoliths while Rocky Mountain National Park's rich scenery typifies the massive grandeur of the Rocky Mountains, and is accessible by Trail Ridge Road, the highest continuous highway in America. Dinosaur National Monument displays working excavations of dinosaur remains and preserves spectacular canyons. At Curecanti National Recreation Area, boating and fishing occur on three manmade lakes along the Gunnison River.

WYOMING

Wyoming also has skiing and other winter sports in the unspoiled Teton National Forest at Jackson Hole.



Robert Smith

Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado

Rendezvous Peak is America's highest ski mountain and one of the most difficult with a 4,200-foot vertical drop.

The town of Jackson is 12 miles from the mountain and is badly overcrowded during the summer months by tourists on their way to nearby Yellowstone National Park. If hordes of folks make you uncomfortable, visit Sheep Canyon and Flaming Gorge in the Ashley National Forest, where exposed geologic formations are estimated to be one billion years old. Stop in Red Canyon Visitor Center, on the edge of the gorge for valuable insights and a grand view.

Other lesser-used areas in Wyoming include Fossil Butte, Devils Tower National Monument and Fort Laramie National Historic Site. Fossil Butte contains an abundance of 40 to 65-million-year-old rare fish fossils while Devils Tower is the remains of a volcanic intrusion preserved as an 865-foot tower of columnar rock. Fort Laramie, once a fur-trading post, now preserves the buildings of a military post established to protect wagon trails to the West.

Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area astride the Wyoming and Montana border neighbors the home of the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range that was established to provide a sanctuary for 120 to 140 wild horses, descended from Indian ponies and from horses that escaped from farms and ranches. The main feature is the Bighorn Lake, formed by Yellowtail Dam on the Bighorn River, which extends 71 miles, including 47 miles through the canyon. The Crow Indian Reservation borders a large part of the area in Montana.

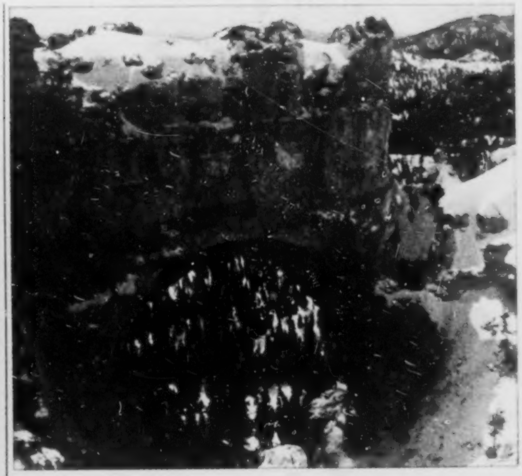
A vacation must is a visit to Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks. Yellowstone is the site where Old Faithful can be observed loudly spouting steam and water high into the air. Old Faithful is only one of 10,000 geysers and hot springs that make this the earth's greatest geyser area. The spectacular Tetons rise more than a mile above the sagebrush flats and were a noted landmark for Indians and mountain men. Visit Yellowstone either in the spring or fall to avoid the crowds or take advantage of the wonderful winter attractions in the area.

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota also has a great number of tourists visiting the Badlands National Park, but there is so much space, vastness and grandeur, it is easy to feel humbled and alone. The weathered skin of the Badlands is a design of ridges and peaks, cliffs and canyons, that at first appear grotesque and eerie but later promote a feeling of tranquility. The Badlands are actually deep alluvial and volcanic ash deposits that have been carved by millions of years of water and wind -- 244,000 acres of free sculpture. Close by the Badlands is the Buffalo Gap National Grassland, an area that was once typical of this region.

Black Hills, South Dakota's only national forest that extends into northeastern Wyoming, culminates in Harney Peak (7,242 feet), highest point in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. It is just southwest of Mount Rushmore National Memorial, granite carvings commemorating the birth and hardship of creating a nation. Jewel Cave National Monument near Custer has more than 66 miles of passageways on four different levels. The cave derives its name from the myriads of jewel-like calcite crystals that hang from the ceilings. Nearby Wind Cave National Park combines the protection of the beautiful boxwork and calcite crystal formation of limestone caverns and above-ground natural resources including a large buffalo herd.

Doug Emerson



The majesty of Mt. Moran (left), Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, and Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah, fascinate visitors any time of year.

NORTH DAKOTA

Named for the man whose policy was based on wise use of the nation's natural resources in the public interest, Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota preserves the short-grass prairie and Badlands along the Little Missouri River and portions of Theodore Roosevelt's cattle ranch. It was his visits to these areas that gave birth to his practical conservation philosophy.

An important trading post from 1829 to 1867 that helped to develop South Dakota, Montana and the Prairie Provinces, is Fort Union Trading Post in North Dakota (also in Montana). Fort Union was the largest and most imposing trading post on the Missouri, and was a comfortable and quite complete American community in the midst of the wilderness of the upper Plains Indian territories. The ruins can be reached via U.S. 2 and country road 4 from Williston, North Dakota.

UTAH

Utah's national forests, seven of them, are all easily accessible by vehicle. The world's largest aspen trees are in the Manti-La Sal Forest in central Utah. The Alpine Scenic Highway around Mount Timpanogos in the Uinta Forest is a popular drive from Salt Lake City. South from Dixie National Forest out of Cedar City, it is possible to see into four states: Colorado, Arizona, Nevada and Utah.

One of their many special scenic areas is Logan Canyon in Cache National Forest. Route 89 northeast from Logan to Bear Lake is a spectacular canyon drive through the Wasatch Mountains.

Another underutilized area is Fishlake National Forest. Six or so highways lead to Fishlake, where scenic drives, stream fishing, lakes of all sizes, and lots of serenity await the visitor.

All of these attractions are impressive, but so, too, is Bryce Canyon National Park, one of 13 park areas in the state. Located along the edge of the Paunsaugunt Plateau in southern Utah, the odd shapes and forms are the products of erosion from rain, snow and ice. Another scenic erosional area is Cedar Breaks National Monument with 2,000-foot-high Pink Cliffs. Geologic wonders are also to be found at Canyonlands, Capitol Reef and Zion national parks. For history buffs there is Golden Spike National Historic Site, where completion of the first transcontinental railroad was celebrated. Recreationists will find outstanding scenery as well at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (also in Arizona). Anazasi Indian pueblo towers and ruins are well preserved at Hovenweep National Monument (also in Colorado). And at Timpanogos Cave National Monument gravity is defied by helictites – water created formations that grow in all directions and shapes.

Other fine Utah areas are the Natural Bridges and Rainbow Bridge National Monuments, which are natural bridges carved out of sandstone. The bridges are so attractive and unusual that they are often used as the "trademark" in advertising tourism to the state of Utah.

Cont Fire + H. T.

MIDWEST

The Great Lakes and Midwest regions of the United States have some of the finest outdoor recreation opportunities in the entire country with an unmatched variety of scenery, natural wonders and historic sites, yet they are seldom crowded and many are overlooked.

MINNESOTA

Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota, one of the world's great water parks, is an exciting area of hidden lakes reflecting a lush green hue that covers the thick forests and islands like a giant blanket. Deer and black bear roam the woods as does the shy and secretive eastern timber wolf. The park is in the heart of the only region in the continental United States where this species survives.

This wonderous park is a jigsaw puzzle of lakes, ponds, marshes, bogs, beaver dams and glacier-carved rock basins.

The Indians were here first, then came the Voyageurs, or French-Canadian canoemen who moved goods and furs along this waterway from Canada into northern Minnesota. The route of these traders became so established that the 1783 treaty ending the American Revolution specified that the international boundary should follow their "customary waterway" between Lake Superior and Lake of the Woods. Today, the park, which was established in 1975, adjoins a 56-mile stretch of that Voyageurs Highway.

One-third of the surface of the park is covered with water, so visitors should bring along a boat. Accommodations with hookups for RVs are not available in Voyageurs but are offered by private resorts in Crane Lake, Ash River, Kabetogama Narrows and Island View. In summer, watercraft must be used for travel in the park; boats, canoes and guide services are available. Visitor centers are located in International Falls and Kabetogama Narrows.

Just east of Voyageurs in the Superior National Forest is the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCA). Here visitors may experience more than one million acres of wilderness lakes, streams and wetlands. This unique area is managed in a way that preserves much of the flavor and adventure of the early days of exploration. Permits are required for entry and canoeing is the way to explore this area that encompasses nearly 3,400 square miles. Experienced outfitters and guides are available to lead visitors on a challenging and unusual vacation adventure in this area ranked as the finest canoe country in the United States.

Scenic drives are Honeymoon and Ely Buyck Roads, Gunflint and Sawbill Trails. Resorts and RV parks are outside the wilderness area. Nearby towns include Duluth, Ely, Grand Marais, International Falls, Two Harbors and Virginia, Minnesota; Port Arthur and Winnipeg, Canada.

WISCONSIN

Another scenic waterway is the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway running through Wisconsin to Minnesota on the Namekagon and St. Croix rivers. None of the 252 miles is classified as white water and all are within easy reach of a major metropolitan area. For information, write: St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, P.O. Box 70, St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin 54024.

Uncrowded roads and rolling green hills lead to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, Missouri.

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Bob Livingston

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MICHIGAN

Tucked away in Lake Superior, framed by Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, is another crown jewel that few people visit: Isle Royale National Park, a forested island filled with wildlife, nature trails, lakes and lots of solitude. Discover this treasure from mid-May through mid-October. Boaters and tent campers must obtain a permit available free at any ranger station. Transportation from the mainland to the park is by boat or float plane. RV parking is available at departure points. Write the park for rate, schedules and information.

Also on Lake Superior is Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. Headquartered in Munising, the area offers boat tours and hikes along old loggers' trails.

The seven-mile Pierce Stocking Drive along the shores of Lake Michigan offers views of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, the Manitou Islands and Glen Lake. Though the summer attracts the most people, fall colors usually peak in mid-October and new RVers should consider the autumn attractions. Spring activities include viewing woodland wildflowers, gathering morels, fishing for steelhead and birdwatching. During a two-week period in November, rifle hunting is permitted under the regulations of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. (You may prefer to stay out of the woods if you are not a hunter.) The drive is open daily from early May through early November, weather and road conditions permitting; it is closed during wet weather. Motorhomes more than 24 feet in length or 11 feet in height, and all trailers are not permitted on the drive.

Ohio's verdant farms and fine-feathered friends offer a gracious welcome to travelers.

Bob Longsdorf

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NATIONAL PARKS ☐
NATIONAL FORESTS ○

INDIANA

Indiana also has a piece of Lake Michigan. Magnificent dunes rise as high as 180 feet above the southern shore at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, between Gary and Michigan City.

Another must visit should be the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial in southern Indiana at Lincoln City. Abraham moved here when he was 7 years old and worked with his father on the farm for 14 years. The self-guided tours afford insights into the early 1800s. Open year-round.

ILLINOIS

Illinois would be the next stop if following Abraham Lincoln's life. The only home he ever owned is in Springfield at the Lincoln Home National Historic Site. In 1861 he left his house to become the 16th president of the United States.

Illinois' only national forest, Shawnee, has some prehistoric stone forts and Indian mounds, river and lake fishing. Nearby towns are Anna, Cairo, Carbondale, Harrisburg; Paducah, Kentucky; St. Louis, Missouri.

OHIO

Ohio, which is without a large mountain range, does have the lovely Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area between Cleveland and Akron, and the Wayne National Forest nearby Athens and Ironton. Wayne is lush, green forest with a fine selection of oak, hickory, white elm, ash, birch and maple trees. The changing colors of spring and fall, the wildflowers and the numerous streams and lakes all form a spectacular scene.

If you are interested in the history of the American Indian, visit the Mound City Group in Chillicothe, which is where 23 burial mounds of the Hopewell Indians (200 B.C. – 500 A.D.) are located. Mound City was a village and burial site for people living along the Scioto River during the first two centuries A.D.

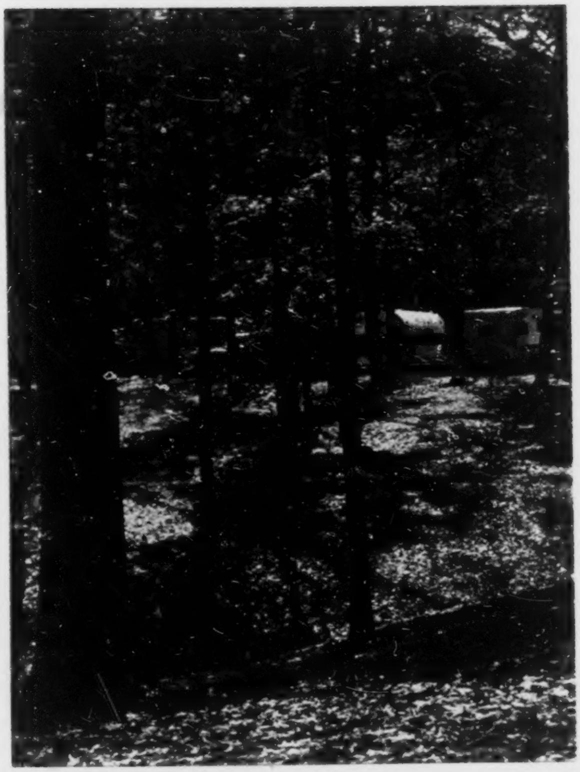
IOWA/NEBRASKA

Iowa has two national sites: the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site in West Branch and the Effigy Mounds National Monument three miles north of Marquette on Iowa 76. The monument contains outstanding examples of prehistoric burial mounds, some in the shapes of birds and other animals. Within the monument's borders are 191 known prehistoric mounds. Iowa has no national forests, nor does Kansas.

Nebraska National Forest, the state's only national forest, is within a game refuge and is the nesting ground of the great blue heron, prairie chicken and grouse. Towns located near the forest are Broken Bow, Valentine and Halsey.

An often-overlooked tourist attraction is the Agate Fossil Beds National Monument located 23 miles south of U.S. 20 at Harrison, via Nebraska 29, or 34 miles north of U.S. 26 at Mitchell, via Nebraska 29. The Agate Fossil Beds, about 2,700 acres, contain well-preserved Miocene mammal fossils. The self-guiding trail to the area of exposed fossils is a relaxing and educational experience.

During the mid-19th century, the treacherous Missouri River was something to be aware of. Neverthe-



Abraham Lincoln's boyhood state, Indiana, abounds in year-round activities from the shores of Lake Michigan to the countryside of Hoosier National Forest.

less, the river, with its changing sandbars and channels, was a major form of transportation in the westward expansion of the United States. Over 400 steamboats were wrecked on the Missouri during the height of the steamboat era, 1842 to 1865. The river, which separates Iowa from Nebraska, was dotted with steamboat wrecks along this particular stretch. The steamboat *Bertrand* struck a snag in 1865 and sunk on what is now the DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge is located midway between Blair, Nebraska, and Missouri Valley, Iowa, just south of U.S. Hwy 30. The DeSoto Visitor Center houses and interprets the cargo of the *Bertrand*. The excavation site can also be viewed April 15 through September 30. The stop here is an unusual and interesting peek into a part of American history.

MISSOURI

To visit Missouri is to experience the beautiful Mark Twain National Forest in the southern half of the state. It includes the mighty Ozark Mountains that are covered with oak and pine forests, numerous caves and miles of streams and rivers for either float trips or fishing.

If you would like to recapture the pioneer spirit of early America, canoe the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. Extending through the forests of the hilly Ozark Plateau in southern Missouri, the Current River and its tributary, Jacks Fork, run 134 miles and offer canoers chills and thrills. Much of this river country is little changed from the days when only Indians were using the waters. Bring your own canoe, or float vessel, or rent one at various points along the streams. You don't have to canoe, however. RVers may visit the old red mill at Alley Spring, see some of the largest springs in the world, or tour Round Spring Cavern by lantern light (reservations required). Tourist services are available in many small towns in the vicinity of Riverway borders. Mailing address: P.O. Box 490, Van Buren, Missouri 63965.

There are also a variety of landmarks nearby that touch on American history. A stop at Diamond reveals that George Washington Carver's work in agriculture had considerable influence in transforming the Deep South from a "one-crop" cotton region to one of agricultural diversity. The national monument has a self-guiding trail past the existing landmarks at the birthplace and childhood home of Carver. The Wilson's Creek Battlefield and other historic sites are well worth a visit to Missouri.

Summer '84 visitors may wish to plan a trip to soon-to-be-opened Harry S Truman National Historic Site. This house in Independence, Missouri, served as the "summer White House" during the presidency of Harry S Truman. Built shortly after the Civil War by Mrs. Truman's grandfather, the house was the Trumans' Missouri home throughout their married life. The site is scheduled to officially open on May 12, 1984 and advanced reservations are recommended.

KANSAS

Kansas does boast two memorable historic sites: Fort Scott in southeastern Kansas and Fort Larned located in the Pawnee River valley of west-central Kansas. Fort Larned is a well-preserved fort and was one of the most important military posts along the Santa Fe Trail.

NORTH ATLANTIC

The North Atlantic region, which consists of the eight most northeasterly states, is an area of unspoiled beauty with enough camping, fishing, boating and nature watching to satisfy the most ardent outdoor enthusiast. History lives here where relics of the old days, beginning with Captain John Smith, who explored its shores in 1614, mingle easily with campgrounds and modern-day life.

MAINE

Along the coast of Maine is the greatest lobster-producing region in the world and the home of Acadia National Park, which includes Isle au Haut, Schoodic Peninsula and Mount Desert Island.

The impressive rock-studded park, which is noted for tidepools, coves and rugged cliffs, is a joy to behold. There are more than 80 species of edible fish in these waters, made cold by the Labrador current, and for the birdwatcher it is possible to count 300 species of birds. The often fog-covered islands, combined with lighthouses, fishing boats and trails that lead to forested mountains, present a fascinating nature experience.

Acadia is popular and quite busy during the summer months. It is recommended at all national parks and forests to first stop at the visitor center, watch a film of the area, if available, and browse through the publications. The first visitor center is on Route 3 just after crossing onto Thompson Island. It is a cooperative effort of the NPS and Chamber of Commerce.

A 20-mile drive on Mount Desert Island includes the spotless seashore, turquoise lakes and Cadillac Mountain, the highest point on the Atlantic Coast. The view of Frenchman, Blue Hill and Penobscot Bays is a stunning panorama. Unspoiled vistas beautiful beyond description await the vacationer. Don't overlook the posted schedules at park headquarters detailing nature walks and boat cruises. From November to April, depending upon the weather, ice-fishing, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and hiking are popular. The park has two campgrounds: Seawall is first-come, first-served; Blackwoods campground is by reservation after June 15. Reservations are through Ticketron and limited to 14 days. There are numerous privately run campgrounds close-by the park. Reservations are also advised for the ferry boats. Allow enough time to see the museums and explore the villages near the parks. You can rent horses or ride bicycles along the 43 miles of carriage paths that wind into the forests and also meander to Jordan Pond and Eagle Lake.

VERMONT

Vermont, the most northwesterly New England state, has more than two-thirds of its land area covered with forest growth. The Green Mountain National Forest comprises an area of 240,000 acres with 900 peaks rising above 2,000 feet. Ninety campsites and 130 picnic sites are available within the forest.

The state now has 30 or so ski areas, the most prominent being Killington, Mount Snow, Stowe, Stratton/Bromley and Sugarbush. Fall, spring and summer are the times to visit Champlain Valley and the Green Mountains where you can fish in some 400 miles of streams, lakes and ponds. Nearby towns include: Brandon, Burlington, Man-

NEW HAMPSHIRE
VERMONT
MAINE
NEW YORK
MASSACHUSETTS
RHODE ISLAND
CONNECTICUT
NEW JERSEY

NATIONAL PARKS ☐
NATIONAL FORESTS ☐

Silver Cascade, White Mountain National Forest, New Hampshire

chester, Middlebury, Rochester and Rutland. Approximately 130 miles of the 2,000-mile-long Appalachian National Scenic Trail runs through Vermont.

MASSACHUSETTS

The influence of Massachusetts in the life of the United States can be seen in the state's 12 national historic sites and parks. Begin in Boston by parking your RV in one of the public or private parking lots, putting on your comfortable street shoes and taking a walking tour via the three-mile round-trip Freedom Trail to Boston's major historic sites. A red line painted on the sidewalk directs you from site to site. Allow at least one day for the entire tour.

Information concerning Boston and the Freedom Trail can be obtained at the Boston National Historical Park Visitor Center, at 15 State Street, the Charlestown Navy Yard and the information kiosk on Boston Common. First visit the National Park Service Visitor Center in downtown Boston for a free audio-visual show to orient you to the park and greater Boston.

A tour of the Freedom Trail is an opportunity to relive a large chunk of American history while enjoying the various ethnic neighborhoods of a great city. The State House and Archives dates to 1795 and contains many original documents. The Park Street Church, King's Chapel, Franklin Statue and Old Corner Bookstore are all part of America's roots. The seeds of the Boston Tea Party were spread at the Old South Meeting House.

The Old State House, Faneuil Hall and the Paul Revere House are national treasures. The city's oldest standing church (1723), Old North Church, is the site where two lanterns were hung to warn Charlestown that the British were crossing the harbor on their way to Concord. Browse through Copp's Hill Burying Ground, the Bunker Hill Monument and the Charlestown Navy Yard that was first opened in 1800 and is the home of the *USS Constitution*, known affectionately as "Old Ironsides." The ship, launched in 1797, is the oldest commissioned warship in the world. The Constitution Museum is a favorite stopping place for the whole family; displays help visitors to better understand shipboard life in the 1800s. Anyone interested in American history should, at least once in his lifetime, visit Boston and tour the Freedom Trail. The tour boasts 16 sites and structures of historic importance in downtown Boston and Charlestown. Part of the Freedom Trail is intersected by the Black Heritage Trail, which winds through Beacon Hill, and the Boston African American National Historic Site.

Another self-guided tour is Heritage State Park in Lowell. The Dutton Street Parking Lot is convenient for the Lowell National Historical Park and State Heritage Park. Located in the heart of the city, the park offers 37 historic sites with 19 major points of interest. Lowell, 35 miles north of Boston, was America's first-planned industrial community and is commemorated by a wonderful variety of historic sites. Lowell is one of America's most overlooked cities and is well worth a visit. It offers train, canal and walking tours.

The Saugus Iron Works in Saugus, 14 miles north of Boston, according to the NPS, is another of Massachusetts' overlooked attractions. Begun in 1646 by a handful of English and Scots, Saugus became the first integrated iron works in North America. The tour includes a walk through the ironmaking process and a visit to the Blacksmith Shop, The Ironhouse, Slitting Mill, Iron Works House, Furnace and Forge.

In contrast to the Iron Works, the Minute Man National Historical Park is a four-mile drive along Battle Road between Lexington and Concord, the scene of the fighting on April 19, 1775, that opened the American Revolution. Along the road you will find the Battle Road Visitor Center, the site where Paul Revere was captured.

It is best to visit this area between peak traffic hours after people have gone to work and before they go home. State 2A is not a park-owned road so beware of traffic, and please respect the rights of private families living within the park boundary.

A visit to New England would not be complete without a tour of the Cape Cod National Seashore and one of the last expanses of uninterrupted natural lands along the Atlantic. The Pilgrims first saw the New World at Cape Cod and today historic buildings with traditional shake or clapboard siding, can be seen in natural surroundings preserving examples of Cape Cod homes, an architectural style developed in America.

Bob Schneider

Visit the Old State House, one of the many historic sites along the Freedom Trail, Boston, Massachusetts.

Cape Cod has miles of beaches, two visitor centers and a wildlife sanctuary. Bicycle and nature trails are also available. The NPS does not maintain a camping facility at the national seashore; however, a number of campgrounds are located nearby. Nickerson State Park in Brewster contains 420 campsites. Camping is on a first-come, first-served basis. Remember, the roads are narrow and the traffic is heavy during the summer months. For a quality travel experience visit the area during the shoulder seasons.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

If you love to travel off the beaten path then Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site in New Hampshire is the perfect destination. Located in Cornish, this memorial to sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens contains his home, "Aspet," and his studios and gardens. An important American sculptor, he received critical acclaim for the Adams Memorial, The Standing Lincoln and many other works of art. Saint-Gaudens is highly recommended.

The White Mountain National Forest is also a New Hampshire prize, comprised of 727,000 acres located partly in Maine. Within the forest is a scenic drive leading to 650 miles of fish-filled streams, 39 superb lakes and ponds, 800 campsites and 200 picnic sites. Mount Washington, 6,288 feet, the highest point in New England, is a popular spot year-round. The forests of tall, deliciously scented pine trees, the covered bridges and slow-paced life will bring you back, again and again.

NEW YORK

New Yorkers find New Hampshire an ideal holiday location and a nice change of pace, but within their own state there are approximately 17 NPS properties. It is always fun to visit the Statue of Liberty, but several less-frequented destinations are worth a visit; for example, the home of Franklin D. Roosevelt in Hyde Park. This was the birthplace, lifetime residence and "Summer White House" of the 32nd president. The site covers 263 acres of beautifully kept grounds. Also in the vicinity are the Vanderbilt Mansion and the Eleanor Roosevelt Historic Site.

Fort Stanwix National Monument in Rome, New York, is the site where the Americans held off the British invasion from Canada. Tours of the fort are offered daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., April 1 to December 31. A city parking garage on North James Street is available for visitor parking and is within one-half block of the park entrance.

For American history buffs the 2,457-acre Saratoga Historical Park is a thrill. Located 30 miles north of Albany in Stillwater, Saratoga is the location of the American victory over the British in 1777 – a turning point of the Revolution. Park roads are open from April 1 to November 30, weather permitting.

An unbelievable strand of sea and shore can be found in New York at Fire Island National Seashore, a barrier island stretching 32 miles from Democrat Point on the west to Moriches Inlet to the east, with the mainland of Long Island at its back. Unless you are a resident you cannot park here. There is fee parking in Robert Moses State Park (west end) and in Smith Point County Park (east end). Ferries operate from the mainland to the park from May to November. Fire Island offers 1,400 acres of wilderness, accessible only by foot; boating, fishing, nature tours, sandy beaches and swimming are available.

MID-ATLANTIC

American history comes alive as you tour the Mid-Atlantic region. When following the trail of the Civil War, for example, it is easy to become completely absorbed with the fascinating details of each drama. A stop at Petersburg, Virginia, relives the grim battles of Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee. Antietam in Maryland is the home of the bloodiest day of the Civil War. President Abraham Lincoln delivered his famous address at Gettysburg. The impressive list also includes the Appomattox Court House, Fredericksburg and the Manassas and Richmond Battlefield Parks, one and all, magnificent in their presentations.

NATIONAL PARKS ☐
NATIONAL FORESTS ○
PENNSYLVANIA
DELAWARE
MARYLAND
VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA

Philadelphia is a fine city in which to begin a tour of American history. The metropolis is in the midst of a major transformation and combines new and old, education and entertainment. Independence National Historical Park includes 17 historic buildings, the Liberty Bell, museums and motion pictures. Plan at least two to three days for all points of interest. A recommended half-day tour would start at the visitor center, then on to Carpenters' Hall, Independence Hall, Liberty Bell Pavillion and Franklin Court. From early May to Labor Day waiting time for tours of Independence Hall can range from 15 minutes to one hour.

PENNSYLVANIA

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, can be seen by following the auto tour route, which will take about three hours, but the best way to see the area

is by foot or bicycle. This absorbing historical experience entails 17 sites, plus more than a thousand monuments.

For railroad buffs, Allegheny Portage Railroad Historic Site should be on your "must-see" list. This little-visited park is where the traces of the first railroad crossing of the Allegheny Mountains can be seen. The unusual railroad cars linked inclined planes to lift and lower passengers from one level to another. Built between 1831 and 1834, it was abandoned by 1857. The site is located on U.S. 22 between Duncanville and Cresson.

The Allegheny National Forest is noted for hunting, fishing and attractive camping sites. Wind-riffled lakes are surrounded by stands of virgin timber, and on a clear night, the stars are often so bright it seems you can reach out and touch them. Snow-based recreation in the area abounds; winter enthusiasts will find hundreds of miles of cross-country skiing trails, ice fishing and snowmobiling opportunities.

VIRGINIA

The George Washington National Forest in Virginia (partly in West Virginia) contains a whopping 1,028,000 acres, where you will find Civil War iron furnaces amid rugged mountainous terrain.

Two less-crowded historic areas within the state are George Washington Birthplace, located on the Potomac River 38 miles east of Fredericksburg (facilities include a mansion house, an active colonial farm and burying ground) and the Booker T. Washington National Monument, including a small farm, which was the birthplace of this world-renowned educator. This farm is 16 miles northeast of Rocky Mount.

In contrast, Shenandoah National Park is a heavily used park. Drive the 105-mile Skyline Drive along the Blue Ridge Mountains, with outstanding views of Shenandoah Valley and the Piedmont. Headquarters is four miles west of Thornton Gap and four miles east of Luray on U.S. 211. Self-guiding nature trails, with signs or leaflets, are at five locations. Watch for interpretive signs at overlooks along Skyline Drive. Trails totaling more than 500 miles make much of the park accessible to hikers. Family campgrounds are available at Mathews Arm, Big Meadows, Lewis Mountain and Loft Mountain (no hookups). A 14-day limit is in effect from June 1 to October 31. Service stations and grocery stores are situated at various points along the drive, but most are closed during January and February.

Another drive filled with historical facts is within the marvelous Colonial National Historical Park. This 23-mile drive, called the Colonial Parkway, connects Jamestown to the battlefield at Yorktown. Jamestown, at the western end of the Colonial Parkway, displays the remains of the first permanent English settlement. Yorktown was the scene of the culminating battle of the American Revolution in 1781. The park itself has no campgrounds but there are several privately owned campgrounds nearby.

Fredericksburg, only 38 miles from George Washington's Birthplace, contains more than 5,000 acres and is noted for Chatham, a large Georgian mansion, the Old Salem Church, the battlefields and Stonewall Jackson's Shrine. Fredericksburg was the site of four

Michelle Burgess

Washington's Headquarters at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, offers tours and re-enactments of the country's beginnings.

major Civil War battles, which resulted in more than 100,000 casualties. There are no overnight camping facilities in the park; however, a national park campground is available at Prince William Forest Park, 23 miles north of Fredericksburg. This entire area is within an easy hour's drive of the nation's capital and offers a combination of scenic and historic sites.

The Civil War ended in Appomattox County when in 1865, General Robert E. Lee surrendered the Confederacy's largest field army to Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant. (The nearest campground is at Holiday Lake State Park.) The village has nine buildings, all restored or reconstructed.

John Evans

WEST VIRGINIA

Something that is not restored or reconstructed is the Monongahela National Forest in the rugged hills and mountains of West Virginia. Besides excellent hunting and fishing, the forest contains Cranberry Glades, an easily accessible area filled with alpine-type flora, Spruce Knob, the highest point in West Virginia, accessible by car and offering spectacular views from an area surrounded by rock outcroppings and red spruce forests. There are 43 campgrounds in the forest. Nearby towns include Charleston, Elkins, Lewisburg and Petersburg. Another worthwhile historical park in the state is Harpers Ferry, a restored town of 30 buildings. There are conducted walks and self-guided tours.

And for excitement, RVers should consider parking their rigs and boarding a raft or kayak on New River for a float or white-water rafting trip that will thrill young and old. Rafting opportunities are also available in many other areas on the East Coast.

MARYLAND

Maryland has a nice selection of national parks and natural features, which are often bypassed by visitors to our nation's capital. The Battle of Baltimore can be relived at Fort McHenry only three miles from the center of the city. The successful defense of this fort against the British, in the War of 1812, inspired Francis Scott Key to write *The Star Spangled Banner*.

A 20-mile drive from Baltimore to Towson and the Hampton Mansion, allows you to step into a stately world of elaborate woodwork, chandeliers, priceless furniture and a maze of rooms. Hampton, completed in 1790, is one of the largest and most ornate mansions built during this period and is surrounded by beautiful gardens and trees. Walking through the estate makes you feel as if you should be wearing your best while sipping champagne from hollow-stemmed crystal.

If visiting the capital, Greenbelt Park, a verdant, 1,100-acre woodland with camping, lies only 14 miles north, in Greenbelt. Fort Washington Park, just across the Potomac from Mt. Vernon, was built to protect Washington D.C. in 1814 and is an ideal spot for a picnic or to take a break from the hurry-scurry of the capital. Another piece of history is the Chesapeake and Ohio Historical Park, a 185-mile-long canal that parallels the Potomac River from Washington D.C. to Cumberland, Maryland. This lovely area offers everything from camping to canoeing to horseback riding and hiking. There are both self-guiding or guided tours, which explain how the mule teams once pulled the canalboats.

SOUTH

"Something for everyone" could easily serve as the motto for the southern United States; the physical topography of the South contains a myriad of geographic marvels. The majestic Congaree Swamp in South Carolina is in contrast to the Great Smoky Mountains and the Appalachian Highlands. The trail along the Cumberland Gap, through Kentucky and Tennessee, follows Daniel Boone's path. Drive the Blue Ridge Parkway, which extends 469 miles through North Carolina (and Virginia). Florida is the home of the Canaveral National Seashore and the mighty Everglades. Relive the Civil War by visiting the historical monuments or slip into a national forest or wilderness area that provides a haven for countless birds and other wildlife.

KENTUCKY/TENNESSEE

When touring the South, it is best to review the historical routes that criss-cross the area. Cumberland Gap contains over 20,000 acres in the states of Kentucky, Tennessee (and Virginia). The visitor center is located on U.S. 25E at Middlesboro, Kentucky. The gap had long been used to cross the Appalachians by Indians, before the white man arrived in 1750. By 1800 more than 300,000 people had traveled through the gap heading west. The famous trail joined the eastern seaboard with the Mississippi west.

W.J. Partridge

The thrill and excitement of white-water rafting abounds throughout the South

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, which is only a two-hour drive from Knoxville and is under used in terms of campers, has one large front-country camping area with 163 level sites open about mid-March to mid-November. There are no hookups or showers but restrooms with running water are available. The campsites can accommodate vehicles up to 34 feet. A dump station is available. There are no lodges or restaurants within the park boundaries but the cities of Middlesboro, Kentucky, and Harrogate, Tennessee, are nearby. The main point of interest to most visitors is the Pinnacle Overlook, but the drive is off limits to vehicles over 20 feet in length.

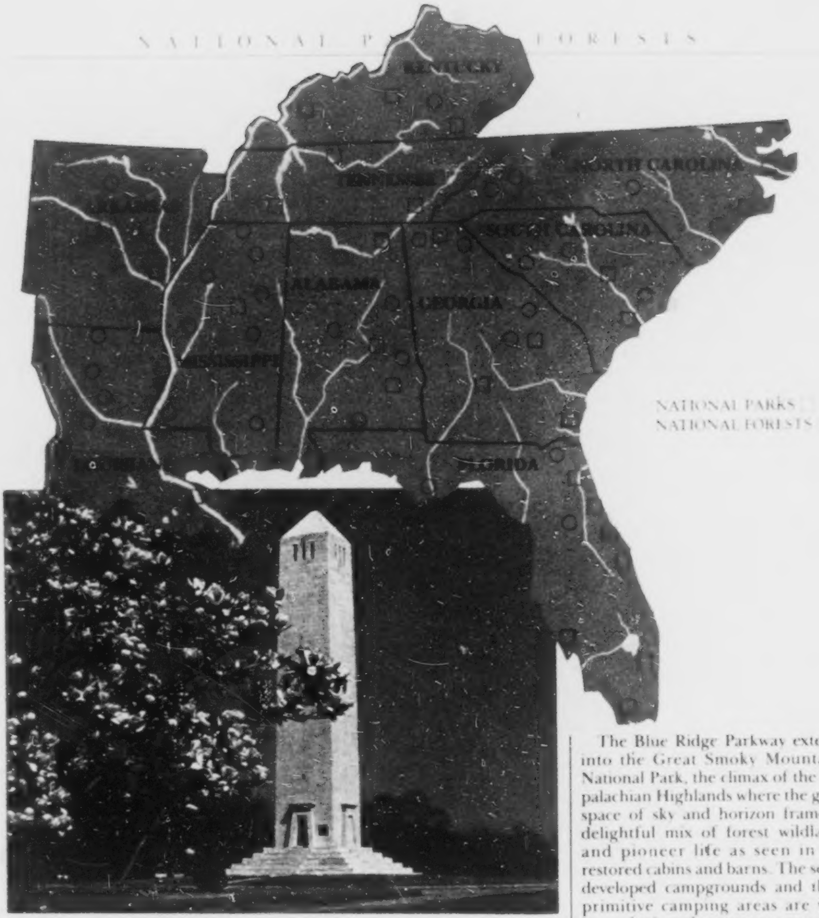
The Daniel Boone National Forest (487,000 acres), includes the western rim of Cumberland Plateau, Red River Gorge, natural rock arches, limestone caves, springs, lakes, fishing streams and lots of camping sites. Nearby towns are Boonesboro, Corbin and Lexington.

Tennessee features the Andrew Johnson National Historic Site and Stones River National Battlefield and Cemetery where both sides in the Civil War claimed victory in a fierce battle. Another major Civil War battle took place at Shiloh National Military Park enabling the victorious Union Forces to advance into Mississippi and Alabama.

Kentucky has two highly recommended attractions in addition to the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area and the Daniel Boone National Forest – Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site at Hodgenville and Mammoth Cave National Park, 194 miles of explored and mapped underground passages, making this the longest recorded cave system in the world. April, May, October and November are the best months in which to visit this popular cave. A 130-site campground and a picnic area are available near the visitor center.

NORTH CAROLINA

Another wonderful drive is along the Blue Ridge Parkway, free from commercial development and heavy traffic. A unit of the NPS, the road winds through the southern Appalachians and over terrain of astonishing vitality. If beginning at the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia, you will experience Skyline Drive and hardwood forests along the crest of this outstanding portion of the Blue Ridge Mountains, with spectac-



Michelle Burgess

Chalmette National Historical Park, New Orleans, Louisiana

ular views of historic Shenandoah Valley and the Piedmont.

The Blue Ridge Parkway winds through George Washington and Jefferson national forests, Roanoke Mountain, Pisgah National Forest and on to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee, a total of 469 scenic miles. You could spend months along the parkway, exploring the trails, talking with the country people and studying the history of the area.

Campgrounds, picnic areas and other visitor accommodations are open May 1 through October. Spring is slow to arrive along Blue Ridge Parkway. The forests are bare when dogwood finally blooms in late April. By mid-May the trees are green to 4,000 feet elevation. All nine parkway campgrounds are open May through October, and limited camping facilities are available in winter at Otter Creek, Peaks of Otter, Roanoke Mountain, Julian Price Park and Linville Falls. Sites in each campground are designated for trailer use, none with hookups.

The Blue Ridge Parkway extends into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the climax of the Appalachian Highlands where the great space of sky and horizon frames a delightful mix of forest wildlands and pioneer life as seen in the restored cabins and barns. The seven developed campgrounds and three primitive camping areas are very busy during the summer months. Fees are charged at developed campgrounds. Reservations handled through Ticketron, are available from May 1 to October 31 at Cades Cove, Elkmont and Smokemont. Try to avoid holidays.

For a look at some imposing scenery and natural wonders, camp in the Pisgah National Forest in North Carolina near the Linville Gorge Wilderness, a canyon of wildness and beauty, featuring a 90-foot waterfall. Explore the natural arches in the Daniel Boone National Forest, Kentucky, where one arch is 60 feet high and 100 feet long. For mountain climbing, try Signal Knob in the

George Washington National Forest in Virginia. Here, flashing lights relayed Civil War messages to Confederate troops threatening the nation's capital.

North Carolina has a prestigious list of Americana that is difficult to surpass. The Wright Brothers Memorial at the Cape Hatteras National Seashore is the site of the first sustained flight in a heavier-than-air machine by Wilbur and Orville Wright. Cape Hatteras is also the location of Sir Walter Raleigh's first English settlement attempted in North America. Cape Hatteras, which is a heavily used national seashore, is certainly worthy of a visit, but an often-overlooked area is the Croatan National Forest near Sir Walter Raleigh's "Lost Colony." Croatan offers boating, fishing, camping and oystering. Interesting insights into a great American can be gained by stopping at poet and biographer Carl Sandburg's farm home in Flat Rock where guided tours are conducted.

MISSISSIPPI/ALABAMA/GEORGIA

The Natchez Trace Parkway is another historic route, which generally follows the old Indian trace, or trail, between Nashville, Tennessee and Natchez, Mississippi. The 358 completed miles are filled with archeological sites, historical landmarks and nature trails. Beginning in Natchez, allow enough time for the places of interest such as the battlefield at Vicksburg National Military Park, where Grant's victory marked the turning point of the Civil War; Shiloh National Military Park, Tennessee; Cherokee range station in Alabama; and nearby Buzzard Roost where there are exhibits that tell the story of Levi Colbert, a Chickasaw Indian Chief. There are a great number of historic and scenic viewpoints along the parkway. There are also mileposts that mark the distance from Natchez.

If planning a trip through the South in springtime, don't miss the Chattahoochee or Oconee national forests, both an easy drive from Atlanta, Georgia. A brilliant assortment of wildflowers are in bloom at this time of year, and above the thick blanket of trees can be seen several hundred species of birds. These two national forests have over 580 campgrounds, 270 picnic sites, swimming beaches, thousands of acres of lakes and streams, and for hikers, 350 miles of trails. Most of the developed recreation areas are open from late spring to early fall although a few selected areas are kept open year-round to accommodate winter campers. The Chattahoochee, containing about 746,400 acres in north Georgia and the Oconee, with 108,200 acres in the rolling Piedmont of middle Georgia, are also noted for bass and trout fishing.

Also in the Atlanta area or within a half-day's drive are the Chattanooga River Recreation Area, Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site and Preservation District, Indian Mounds and Museum at Ocmulgee National Monument and Civil War Parks at Andersonville National Historic Site, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield and Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.

Traveling the coastline of Georgia and north Florida, you'll find forts from Savannah to Stavgert; from Civil War times (Fort Pulaski National Monument) back to when the French, English and Spanish struggled for control of this newly discovered land (Fort Frederica, Fort Matanzas and Castillo de San Marcos National Monument and Fort Caroline National Memorial).

A journey through American history, in addition to the above mentioned, would include stops in South Carolina at Fort Sumter, the Civil War's first battle; Cowpens National Battlefield, where American Frontiersmen routed British regulars in the Revolutionary War; and the Ninety-Six National Historic Site, location of a colonial trading village and Revolutionary War stronghold

Betsy Hilbert

Thousands of acres of subtropical plants and wildlife are included in Florida's Everglades National Park, ancestral home of the Seminole and Miccosukee Indians.

of the British.

Horseshoe Bend National Military Park in Alabama is the spot where Andrew Jackson and the Cherokees defeated the Creek Indian Confederacy, opening the old Southwest to settlement. Earlier human habitation (from 6,000 B.C. to A.D. 1,650) is recorded at Russell Cave National Monument and Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site includes 22 buildings on the campus of the Pioneer Black Educational Institution, the Carver Museum and the home of Booker T. Washington, the school's founder.

FLORIDA

Florida, one of the nation's most popular winter vacation states, has three national forests: Apalachicola, Ocala and Osceola, all with numerous ponds, lakes, rivers and a variety of wildlife. Ocala is noted for palms, hardwoods and vast stands of sand pine. The famous Silver Springs attraction is nearby.

Canaveral National Seashore (not to be confused with the Kennedy Space Center) and Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge are located midway down the Florida east coast between Jacksonville and West Palm Beach. Playalinda Beach on the seashore's southern edge is within easy viewing distance of the NASA rocket installations. This is also a bird watcher's dream. Merritt Island is a key wintering area and supports a population of 50,000 to 70,000 ducks. The refuge is located beneath the Atlantic Flyway, which is a major migratory route for birds. Camping is not permitted, but numerous private campgrounds are located in the nearby communities.

Big Cypress National Preserve, which adjoins Everglades National Park, is a world of pure beauty, of mirror-like water holes where birds pose beneath the rays of a bright sun, magnificent trees with widespread arms and hundreds of acres of dwarf pond cypress. Two major highways cross the preserve: Alligator Alley (Rt. 84) and Tamiami Trail (U.S. 41). With Rt. 29 to the west, they enable you to explore the Big Cypress. The Loop Road (Rt. 94) from 40-Mile Bend to Monroe Station is paved for only eight miles. The graded dirt Turner River Road (Rt. 839) connects Tamiami Trail and Alligator Alley; drive unpaved roads with caution. There is one privately owned campground in the preserve, at Ochopee.

LOUISIANA

After enjoying the delights of Florida, a change of pace is New Orleans, Louisiana, another national treasure. It is one of America's great historical cities representing a mix of heritages, primarily French or Spanish and, Creole, the blending of both. A stylish city that lists tourism as one of its largest industries, vacationers come here to have a good time and find an area that is flamboyant and exotic.

The site of the original city, now called the *Vieux Carre*, or French Quarter, is a 260-acre district crisscrossed with narrow one-way streets that are lined with homes, shops, restaurants and historical landmarks. The architecture here is generously decorated with iron-lace balconies, mansard roofs and sweeping fan windows framed with shutters. The quarter has more than 50 noted sites to explore, in addition to museums, parks and churches.

Jackson Square is the heart of the quarter and almost touches the Mississippi River. Sit at the Cafe Du Monde and have coffee and *beignets* (French doughnuts). Listen for the church bells of the St. Louis Cathedral, a building that dates from 1794 when New Orleans was a Spanish colony.

The Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve includes 20,000 acres and has a visitor center on Jackson Square. The Chalmette unit highlights the Battle of New Orleans where Andrew Jackson and 4,000 troops repulsed more than 5,000 British soldiers in the War of 1812.

Louisiana also has one noted forest, the Kisatchie. See the oldest town in Louisiana, colonial homes, bayous, lakes and a large variety of wildlife within the forest. Kisatchie has nine campgrounds with others located in nearby towns of Alexandria, Leesville, Minden and Winnfield.

ARKANSAS

When in Arkansas, try to plan your journey along the Talimena Scenic Drive in the Ouachita National Forest located in Oklahoma and Arkansas. The drive is 87 miles south of Fort Smith, Arkansas, and stretches 55 miles from Mena, Arkansas, to Talihina, Oklahoma, on a ridgetop highway with panoramic views of forested hills and the Ouachita Mountains. Twenty-one campgrounds and eight major lakes are within the forest. Nearby towns include Booneville, Hot Springs, and Mena, Arkansas, and Heavener and Poteau, Oklahoma.

The Ozark National Forest, which is popular with tourists from Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas and Oklahoma, is heavily traveled during the summer months in order to best enjoy the mild climate, recreational lakes and the earthy flavor of the area.

Another earthy sensation is a soak in one of the thermal hot springs in the Hot Springs National Park, tucked away in the west central section of the state. If the hot, bubbling water doesn't take away your aches and pains, it will at least place you in the state of mind for a delicious snooze.

FRONTIER WEST

Laced with Indian ruins, precious areas of Tallgrass Prairies, vast plains and endless deserts filled with an infinite variety of flora, fauna and recreation activities, the Frontier West beckons to the RVer with an appetite for adventure. The Gila Cliff Dwellings in New Mexico, Navajo National Monument in Arizona, and Fort Davis in west Texas, are only a few of the many parks and monuments available when touring these states.

NEW MEXICO

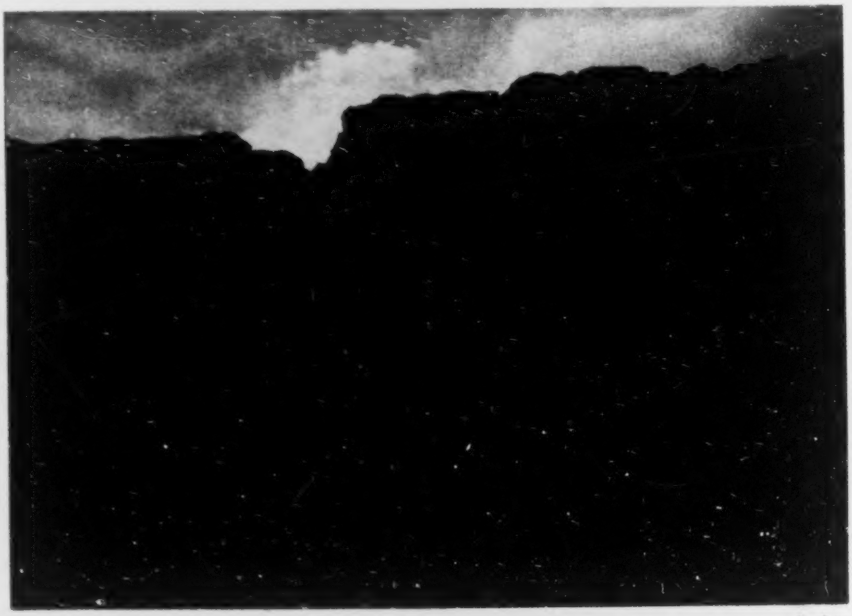
New Mexico, the "Sunshine State" with the roadrunner as its official bird and the yucca the state flower, has a unique and exciting personality. The Upper Sonoran Zone, from 3,000 to 7,500 feet in altitude, covers about three-quarters of the state. Wide grassy plains extend eastward into Texas and are the home of wolves, coyotes, antelope, deer, prairie dogs and mountain sheep.

View the panorama of Albuquerque and the Rio Grande Valley from Sandia Crest Vista Point in the Cibola National Forest. Nearby are Pueblo Indian Villages, prehistoric ruins and dude ranches. The massive timbered Sangre de Cristo Mountains are within Carson National Forest. Wheeler Peak Wilderness offers alpine lakes, canyons and valleys all within the Carson Forest. Plan a visit to the nearby town and well-known art colony, Taos.

The Santa Fe National Forest is a vast and colorful area that should not be missed. The Pecos Wilderness and Santa Fe Ski Basin offer unique sights and recreation appealing during all four seasons.

A primitive area of New Mexico can be found in the Gila National Forest. Pack trips are available into the Gila Wilderness and Black Range Primitive Area. Scenic drives on the outer and inner loops and to the ghost town of Mogollon, are fun. The towns of Deming, Las Cruces and Lordsburg are nearby.

New Mexico probably has the finest selection of national parks and monuments depicting life and history of the American Indian to be found in the United States. The spectacular Gila Cliff Dwellings were



Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Arizona

Doug Emerson

the homes of Indians who lived here in the 13th and 14th centuries. The dwellings are surrounded by Gila National Forest and lie at the edge of the Gila Wilderness Area, the nation's first designated wilderness area.

The ruins of a large Pueblo Indian community of 12th-century masonry and timber buildings can be seen at the Aztec Ruins in Aztec. Chaco Culture National Historical Park in northwestern New Mexico, located on a high plateau region at 6,200 feet, is where the finest example of the Pueblo pre-Columbian civilization in the United States exists. Walk through 13 major ruins and hundreds of smaller sites. The park service maintains a campground about one mile from the visitor center. Salinas National Monument in central New Mexico contains the archeological remains of a settlement that was once the home of 2,000 Pueblo Indians as well as two 17th-century Franciscan missions.

Yet another ruin is in the Pecos National Monument where there are remains of a 17th-century mission, an 18th-century church, ancient Pueblo structures and restored kivas.

The 364-acre park is 25 miles southeast of Santa Fe. Using Santa Fe as a homebase, Bandelier National Monument, about 16 miles north of the city, is one of the first pre-historic Indian ruins considered for preservation by the federal government. There are more than 400 identified ruins in the monument, accessible only on foot, although some key ruins are located on a trail within a ½-mile walk of the visitors center. These cliff houses of 15th-century Pueblo Indians are highly recommended. Juniper Campground offers 93 developed sites. (No hookups, but there is a dump station.)

Don Wright

After a journey through Indian history how about a walk into a volcano? It's possible at Capulin Mountain tucked away in the extreme northeastern region of New Mexico. Campgrounds are located in the villages of Folsom and Raton. Then, of course, there are the famous Carlsbad Caverns 20 miles southwest of Carlsbad. Don't overlook the Walnut Canyon Loop Road, a 10-mile, one-way gravel road. It begins near the visitor center, past a pioneer homestead site to the edge of the backcountry.

According to the NPS, most of the visitors come to New Mexico between Memorial Day and Labor Day. During the remainder of the year, however, temperatures are milder and campground sites are available.

TEXAS

Texas continues the history lesson at the city of San Antonio where there are five Catholic frontier missions: Mission San Antonio de Valero ("the Alamo"), Mission Concepcion, Mission San Jose, Mission San Juan and Mission Espada. Included in the park are a related

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historic dam and aqueduct system.

Eastern Texas has four national forests (Sam Houston, Davy Crockett, Angelina and Sabine) offering a variety of fishing and camping. It also boasts the Big Thicket National Preserve. There are 85 tree species, more than 60 shrubs and nearly 1,000 other flowering plants in the preserve. Big Thicket comprises 84,550 acres of plant diversity and has excellent hiking and nature trails.

The Big Bend National Park, 410 miles from San Antonio to Panther Junction, is the next best thing to Longhorn football as seen at the University of Texas! Big Bend is a wonderful mix of rugged mountains, deserts and the mighty Rio Grande River that winds its way past the high, sheer walls of Santa Elena Canyon and Boquillas Canyon. It is an impressive park and best seen by using the naturalist programs that are presented by park naturalists and rangers. Use the self-guided nature trails or attend the lectures. Campgrounds are at the Basin and Rio Grande Village. The village has a small trailer park with hookups. Because of sharp turns, trailers longer than 20 feet are not allowed in the Basin. There are a number of hiking trails in Big Bend, all with a story and all fascinating.

If you have brought along a boat, stop by the Amistad National Recreation Area at the Amistad Reservoir on the Rio Grande. There are three major boat ramps but all boats must meet U.S. Coast Guard requirements. Amistad is 12 miles upstream from Del Rio. Campgrounds are available near Diablo East, Rough Canyon and Pecos River. Other trailer parks can be found in Del Rio and along U.S. 90.

A look at the life of Lyndon B. Johnson, our 36th president, is at hand when visiting the birthplace, boyhood home and ranch, known around the world as the Texas White House. After a walk through the property it is easy to understand why LBJ loved this region and the state of Texas. The park is located in Johnson City and has a visitor center, [redacted] only miles away. Pine Spring Campground is located one and one-half miles west of Frijole Information Station. Dog Canyon Campground is located in the Dog Canyon area on the north side of the park and is accessible via N.M. Highway 137 north of Carlsbad. The Guadalupe Park can be seen by vehicle on U.S. 62-180, which offers views of El Capitan, Guadalupe Peak and other scenic areas. There is a variety of backpacking and hiking paths throughout the park.

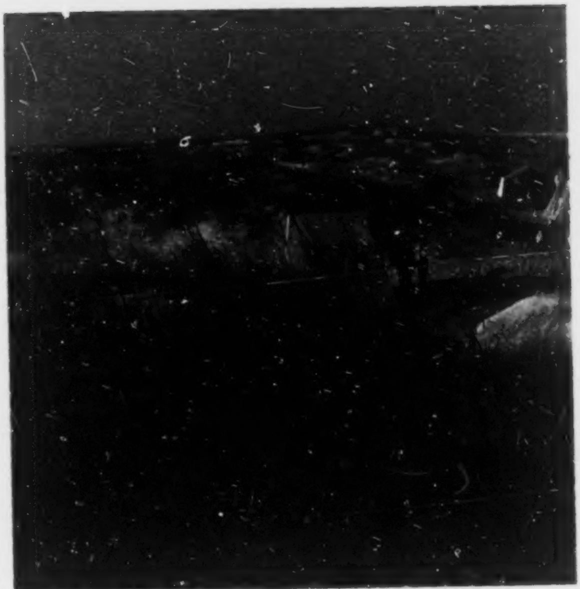


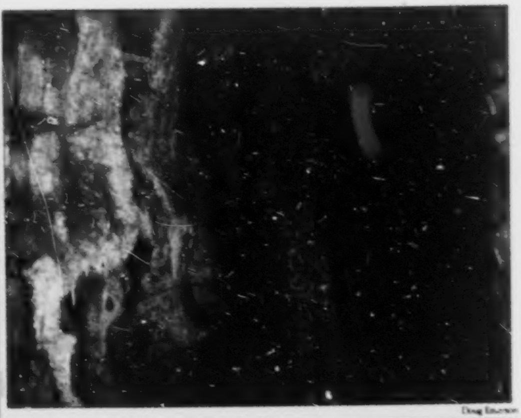
Photo Courtesy of National Park Service

Padre Island National Seashore, Texas, stretches for 80 miles along the Gulf Coast.

ARIZONA

A visit to New Mexico will provide background information for the Navajo National Monument in the canyon country of northeastern Arizona, about 50 miles from Tuba City. Here you will find marvelous cliff dwellings, the largest in Arizona. Visitation at Keet Seel is limited to 20 persons per day and 1,500 per year. There is an eight-mile primitive trail to the ruins and a full day is needed for the experience. Betatakin, which means "Ledge House" in Navajo, is the most accessible ruin in the monument. Tours limited to 20 persons take about three hours round trip and are led by a ranger. Because the canyon is 700 feet deep and the altitude is 7,200 feet, the hike can be a test of endurance. You may see Betatakin from the view point at the end of Sandal Trail at any time, without a guide. Binoculars are highly recommended. There is a campground within the monument. Fall or spring would be the best time of year for a visit to Navajo.

Canyon de Chelly National Monument is one of Arizona's best-known Indian ruins and the home of present-day Navajos. Seeing the monument here is a bit easier than at Navajo. For views of the canyons and ruins, take the two rim drives. South Rim Drive, 36 miles round-trip, leads to five overlooks; North Rim Drive, 32 miles round-trip, leads to three overlooks. Do not pick up or remove any objects or climb or sit on walls of canyons or ruins. Do not enter a ho-



Doug Emerson

Doug Emerson

Unique formations of Carlsbad Caverns National Park (above) contrast vividly with the gentle sand dunes of White Sands National Monument, New Mexico.

gan or take photographs of Indians without their consent. Meals and lodging are offered at Thunderbird Lodge in Chinle. Camping in the canyons is not permitted. Cottonwood campground located near monument headquarters is without hookups.

Sunset Crater National Monument, an ancient volcanic cinder cone with summit crater and lava flows, is connected by an 18-mile road, through cinder-covered hills to Wupatki National Monument. Wupatki contains approximately 800 Indian ruins. Within one square mile there are more than 100 sites. There is also a 36-mile loop road that connects both monuments. A campground is across from the Sunset Crater Visitor Center. Sunset and Wupatki are north of Flagstaff via U.S. 89. Of note at Wupatki is the open-air amphitheater and in the valley is a stone-masonry ball court, one of two found in northern Arizona.

Indians are also working the Hubbell Trading Post at Ganado, which is a national historic site. Nearly everyone of note who passed through northeast Arizona stopped here. The Trading Post, one of the oldest continuously operated trading posts on an Indian reservation, has changed little since its beginning a century ago. Excellent handcrafted Navajo rugs, blankets and silverwork are sold at the post. The Hubbell Trading Post is a convenient stop if traveling to the Grand Canyon or Canyon de Chelly. The post is 55 miles northwest of Gallup, New Mexico.

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma has one National Recreation Area – Chickasaw, at Sulphur, accessible from Oklahoma City and Dallas-Fort Worth via Interstate 35. Boating, waterskiing, skin diving and nature [illegible] all part of the fun. Information on campsites may be obtained May to September by calling (405) 622-6121, or writing: Superintendent, Chickasaw National Recreation Area, P.O. Box 201, Sulphur, Oklahoma 73086. Vacant campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

WEST

CALIFORNIA

California has the undisputed finest selection of parks and forests in the world. From within its 20 parks, 17 national forests, and numerous wilderness and special scenic areas, are more attractions than most *countries* offer. The Sierra Nevada Mountains are the home of Yosemite National Park renowned for its giant sequoias, lakes and waterfalls. The highest mountain in the United States outside of Alaska's Mount Whitney, is in the Sierra range, as are lakes, streams, great canyons and rock formations. The land sparkles beneath a snowcapped panorama of golden sunsets and an unmatched variety of scenery. On one hand is the desert and within an hour's drive is the Pacific Ocean and wide sandy beaches; to the north are the redwoods while the south is lined with swaying palms.

Adjoining the Los Angeles metropolitan area is Angeles National Forest (650,000 acres), affording scenic drives through the rugged mountains with a wonderful view of the city lights at night. Also available for hiking and sightseeing is the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area – where the mountains meet the sea.

The San Bernardino National Forest is less than three hours by RV and is the home of the highest mountains in Southern California – San Gorgonio, 11,485 feet, and six others at more than 10,000 feet. This is one of the few places in the world where you can take a tram from a desert floor (Palm Springs) and in 18 minutes climb to Mountain Station in the San Jacinto Wilderness Area (8,516 feet). The temperature at Mountain Station averages 40 degrees lower than that of Palm Springs. Within this wilderness district, lower elevations managed by the Forest Service and higher elevations under state park jurisdiction, you have your choice of 54 miles of hiking trails and five primitive campgrounds. A nice day hike is to the summit of San Jacinto (10,804 feet).

Only 140 miles east of Los Angeles is Joshua Tree National Monument. The 559,959 acres of desert region offer a wonderful opportunity to experience both high and low desert featuring cholla cactus, spidery ocotillo, extensive stands of Joshua trees, wild flowers, oases, interesting rock formations and wildlife such as the coyote, jackrabbits, owls, the Golden Eagle, bobcats and much

The mesmerizing beauty of Death Valley National Monument is an easy five-hour drive from Los Angeles, California.

NATIONAL PARKS □
NATIONAL FORESTS ○

more. Joshua Tree has visitor centers, ranger stations and wayside exhibits to acquaint you with park resources.

The desert is also infinitely breathtaking at Death Valley National Monument, a five-hour drive from Los Angeles via Highway 395, to the lowest point in the Western Hemisphere. There is an exhilarating feeling of spirit and energy within this large desert area.

In the far distance is the Inyo National Forest and the stunning High Sierra and at hand are a panoramic view of great valleys and tremendous rock formations. Lone Pine, tucked between Death Valley and the Sierra, is the gateway town to the ancient rock-strewn Alabama Hills and beyond to Mount Whitney (14,494 feet), the tallest mountain in the contiguous United States.

Inyo is one of the nation's most popular forest areas, covering the eastern Sierra Nevada and stretching along the east side of three national treasures: Yosemite, Kings Canyon and Sequoia national parks. The Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, which hosts over one million skiers a season, is also part of this prestigious forest.

Walk the spectacular John Muir Wilderness Trail where you will find the little-known Devils Postpile National Monument, just west of Mammoth Lakes between Sequoia and Kings Canyon. Here there are columns of lava that are 40 to 60 feet high and more than 900,000 years old. (Giant's Causeway in Ireland and Fingal's Cave in Scotland are perhaps the best known similar formations in other parts of the world.) Don't miss colorful Rainbow Falls, which drops 101 feet over an andesite cliff. RVs may be driven to within one mile of the falls via the road to Reds Meadow.

Robert Smith

Palisade Glacier, southernmost glacier in the United States and Bristlecone Pine Forest Botanical Area, with many 4,000-year-old trees that are among the oldest living things on earth, are also within the boundaries of the Inyo National Forest.

Yosemite, yet another major attraction in the heart of the High Sierra, draws two to three million visitors a year, and is one of California's most popular nature areas. Glacier-carved valleys, rushing rivers, sparkling waterfalls and kelly-green meadows are among its worldwide appeal. It is not a drop-in spot if planning to spend a night or two; reservations are recommended, as are the shoulder seasons. Artists have been trying to capture the majesty and incomparable beauty of the Yosemite landscape since the 1800s. If you have a camera, oils or watercolors, you can also attempt the challenge.

Up north, in the scenic Redwood National Park, are dramatic redwood forests – some of the world's oldest and tallest trees. The park features a spectacular 40-mile drive along the Pacific Ocean. Just south, in San Francisco, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area encompasses Alcatraz Island, site of a famous penitentiary, the National Maritime Museum, a cultural center at Fort Mason, and ocean beaches, a redwood forest, lagoons, marshes and historic military properties.

Point Reyes National Seashore, a peninsula near San Francisco, offers 67,000 acres of beaches, lagoons and offshore sea lion and bird colonies. The area is so attractive that 25,000 acres were designated as a Wilderness Area in 1976.

Other large national forests in Northern California are Mendocino (873,000 acres); Modoc (1,694,000 acres); Plumas (1,154,000 acres); Shasta-Trinity (2,073,000 acres; two National Forests); Lassen; and Klamath (1,699,000 acres – partly in Oregon).

ARIZONA

Tumacacori, Tuzigoot, Tonto, Fort Bowie, Montezuma Castle, Hopi, Zuni and Verde Valley. What does this fascinating and exotic list of Americana have in common? The answer can be found in Arizona. The state is filled with historic Indian locations, diverse terrain and innumerable recreational activities.

The geographic center of the state is where the Prescott National Forest is located. The landscape is fertile and magnificently diverse, the horizons painted with pastel shades of green, blue, pink and gold. A mile-high at 5,354 feet in elevation, the air is clean and clear, the clouds scattered and puffy.

It is a broad, windswept canvas of rugged, pine-dotted mountain ranges, rolling hills and great valleys. It is the Old West, untrammeled, and vital. The seasonal changes range from below zero temperatures and occasional snow to sun-drenched summer days and refreshingly cool evenings.

Only 26 miles from the city of Prescott is the nation's largest ghost town, Jerome. The old town clings precariously to the side of a mountain and is a photographer's delight. Beyond Jerome is Sedona and the scenic Oak Creek Canyon. Montezuma Castle National Monument is one of the best-preserved cliff dwellings in the United States. Twenty-seven miles farther is Tuzigoot National Monument, a prehistoric Indian town dating to 1125.

Tumacacori National Monument is the historic Spanish Catholic mission building that stands near the site first visited by Jesuit Father Kino in 1691. Tonto National Monument is another well-preserved cliff dwelling area occupied during the 13th and 14th centuries by Salado Indians. The Tonto National Forest (2,885,000 acres) is a paradise for the RV owner. Elevations range from 1,500 to 7,300 feet with semi-desert to pine-fir forests. Within Tonto are the famous Superstition and Mazatzal wildernesses. (Bring along your boat.) The forest also has 30,000 acres of man-made lakes including Roosevelt, Apache, Canyon and Saguaro Lakes on the Salt River and Bartlett and Horseshoe Lakes on the Verde River. Hunting for deer, elk, bear and javelina is permitted.

Other note-worthy sites are Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument where Sonoran Desert plants and animals found nowhere else in the United States, grow at Ajo. An historic fort and other structures built by Mormon pioneers are in the Pipe Spring National Monument, Moccasin, Arizona.

Ian Lamprecht

A must-see location is the Coronado National Forest (1,791,000 acres – partly in New Mexico). Begin in the Tucson area with the Santa Catalina Mountains Recreation Area and Rose Canyon Lake, Sabino Canyon, Mount Lemmon Snow Bowl, southernmost winter sports area in the continental United States, and one of the finest nature museums anywhere, the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. Tucson is also the dude/guest ranch center of the world. Saddle up and enjoy a ride in the Coronado National Forest.

Two popular and spectacular parks are the Petrified Forest National Park and the Grand Canyon National Park. The Grand Canyon RV parks and campgrounds can be fully booked during summer months; reservations advised. The canyon can be hiked, seen by airplane, helicopter, atop a burro, or by rafting on the Colorado River, which places visitors in direct touch with the immense variety of formations that illustrate vast periods of geological history.

The Petrified Forest National Park and the colorful Painted Desert are regions of soaring pinnacles, of distances and vivid colors where petrified wood and other fossils are evidence of human history in the area dating to 2,000 years. The Painted Desert Visitor Center offers a 17-minute film on how wood is petrified, which is excellent background information for your journey into the park, as is the Rainbow Forest Museum. The 27-mile scenic drive through the park has frequent pullouts and is a photographer's delight.

From the majestic Bighorn Sheep to the spectacular Grand Canyon, the Southwest captivates its audience with diversity and grandeur.

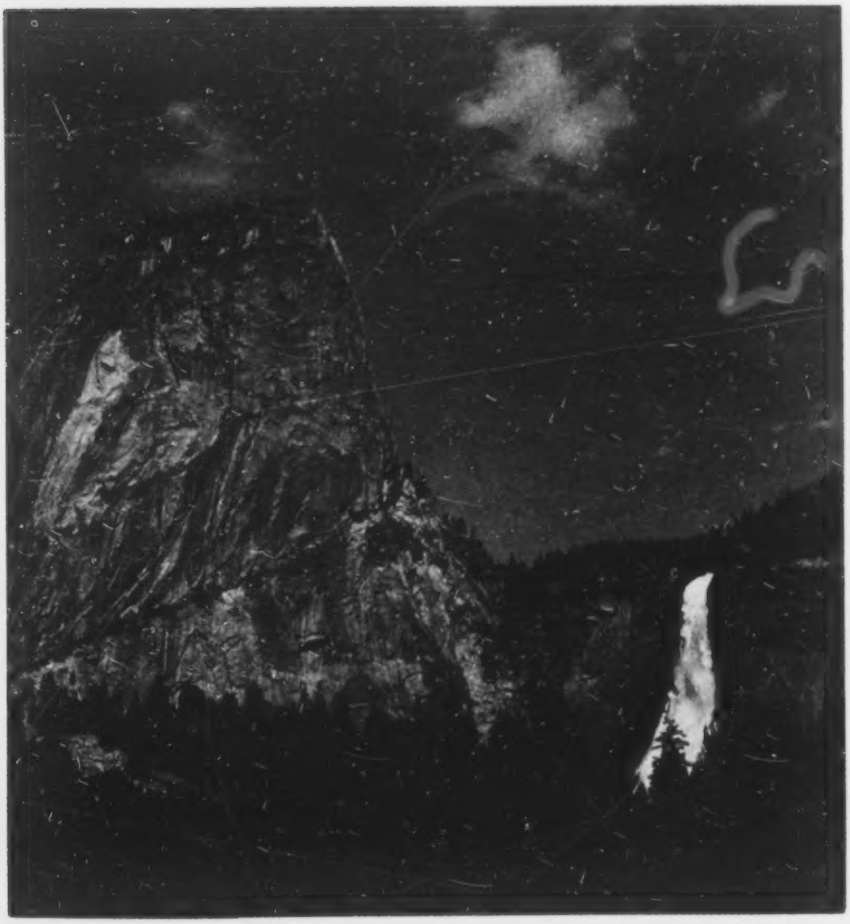
Doug Emerson

Do not collect fossils or petrified wood. You could be stopped and searched, and would be prosecuted if caught with these unusual creations of nature. Many of the fossils and pieces of petrified wood have already been carried away, depleting the area and cheating future generations.

NEVADA

Nevada, for many, brings to mind the glitter and glamour of Las Vegas, lavish stage shows and casinos where you can gamble away your keys to the family motorhome or win an airplane or a trip to Monte Carlo just by the mere pull of a handle.

When the high-roller thrill of Las Vegas becomes tiresome, drive the Boulder Highway 93-95, about 30 or so miles to the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Lake Mead, formed after the Hoover Dam was constructed on the Colorado River in 1936, has 550 miles of shoreline. The first stop here should be the visitors center for a 15-minute film about the lake. Then take your



Doug Emerson

Yosemite National Park, California, one of the most spectacular areas in the world, attracts visitors with such awesome sites as Nevada Falls.

choice of camping, hiking, fishing or boating.

Nevada's underutilized attraction is the Lenman Caves on the Nevada/Utah border at Baker. The caves are in stark contrast to the desert land that surrounds them with their colorful and exciting formations.

The other face of the state is Lake Tahoe and the rugged High Sierra as seen in the Toiyabe National Forest. The Ruby and Santa Rosa mountains, the Jarbridge Wilderness, Wildhorse Reservoir and the Owyhee River Canyon, are all in the Humboldt National Forest using the towns of Ely, Elko, Mountain City, Wells and Winnemucca as the gateway points to this 2,514,000-acre forest. An interesting holiday is to begin the journey in Salt Lake City driving through the Salt Flats to Wendover on the Utah/Nevada border and then to the Humboldt Forest.

The Lake Tahoe area offers an incredible, diverse variety of terrain and activities. The cerulean skies sit atop jagged mountains that gracefully frame the fertile meadows and aquamarine lakes so abundant throughout. Hiking, camping, boating, water and snow skiing, and outstanding backpacking make this land an RVer's mecca.

NPS and FS Regional Offices

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
(U.S. Department of the Interior)

As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

Properties within the national parks include several different designations such as national monument, national preserve, national memorial and wilderness area; all are administrated through the Department of the Interior for the enjoyment and education of the public.

NORTH ATLANTIC
Regional Office
National Park Service
15 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02109
Phone: (617) 223-0058

MID-ATLANTIC
Regional Office
National Park Service
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
19106
Phone: (215) 597-7018

NATIONAL CAPITAL
Regional Office
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, District of
Columbia 20242
Phone: (202) 426-6700

SOUTHEAST
Regional Office
National Park Service
Richard B. Russell Federal
Bldg. & U.S. Courthouse
75 Spring Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Phone: (404) 221-5187

MIDWEST
Regional Office
National Park Service
1709 Jackson Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68102
Phone: (402) 221-3471

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Regional Office
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225
Phone: (303) 234-3095

SOUTHWEST
Regional Office
National Park Service
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, New Mexico
87501
Phone: (505) 988-6375

WESTERN
Regional Office
National Park Service
450 Golden Gate Avenue
Box 36063
San Francisco, California
94102
Phone: (415) 556-4122

PACIFIC NORTHWEST
Regional Office
National Park Service
2001 6th Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98121
Phone: (206) 442-0170

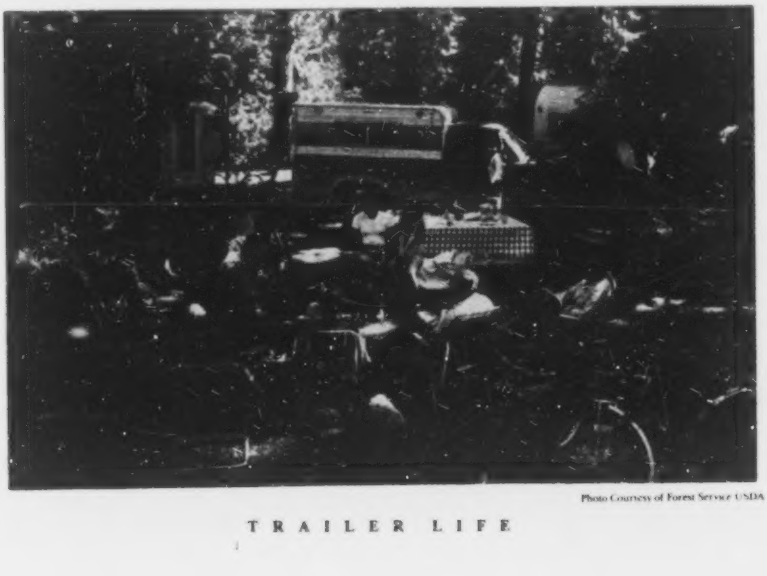


Photo Courtesy of Forest Service USDA

FOREST SERVICE

(United States Department of Agriculture)

The National Forest System under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture functions within a multiple-use mandate. In addition to scenic areas and recreational activities, the forests also permit limited and supervised mining, grazing and logging. The system is dedicated to maintaining a careful balance of resources / services and recreational enjoyment. Forest recreation includes scenic drives, wilderness trips, camping and hiking, boating, and limited hunting and fishing.

NORTHERN REGION –
Regional Forester
Federal Bldg.
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, Montana 59807

SOUTHWESTERN REGION –
Regional Forester
Federal Bldg.
517 Gold Ave., SW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION –
Regional Forester
630 Sansome St.
San Francisco, California 94111

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION –
Regional Forester
11177 West 8th Ave.
P.O. Box 25127
Lakewood, Colorado 80255

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION –
Regional Forester
Federal Bldg.
324 25th St.
Ogden, Utah 84401

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION –
Regional Forester
319 SW Pine St.
P.O. Box 3623
Portland, Oregon 97208

EASTERN REGION –
Regional Forester
310 West Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203

SOUTHERN REGION –
Regional Forester
1720 Peachtree Rd., NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30367

WILDLIFE REFUGES

Another federal land system offering outstanding recreational opportunities is the National Wildlife Refuge System.

To fully enjoy the 390 national wildlife refuges, write the appropriate regional office.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 25486
Denver Federal Center
Denver, Colorado 80225

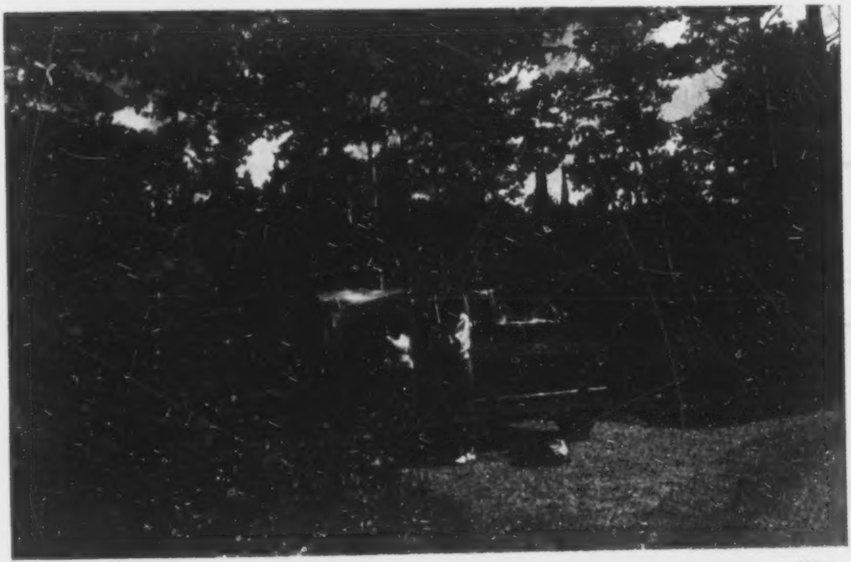
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 95067
Atlanta, Georgia 30347

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
One Gateway Center
Suite 700
Newton Corner,
Massachusetts 02158

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Building
Fort Snelling
Twin Cities, Minnesota 55111

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Lloyd 500 Bldg., Suite 1692
500 Northeast
Multnomah St.
Portland, Oregon 97232



Bill Eaves

Field Offices of the Forest Service

United States Department of Agriculture

Northern Region
Federal Bldg.
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, MT 59807

Idaho

Clearwater Orofino, 83544
Idaho Panhandle National Forests (Coeur d' Alene, Kaniksu, St. Joe) Coeur d'Alene, 83814
Nez Perce Grangeville, 83530

Montana

Beaverhead Dillon, 59725
Bitterroot Hamilton, 59840
Custer Billings, 59103
Deerlodge Butte, 59703
Flathead Kalispell, 59901
Gallatin Bozeman, 59715
Helena Helena, 59626
Kootenai Libby, 59923
Lewis and Clark Great Falls, 59403
Lolo Missoula, 59801

Rocky Mountain Region
11177 West 8th Ave.
P.O. Box 25127
Lakewood, CO 80225

Colorado

Arapaho-Roosevelt Ft. Collins, 80521
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison Delta, 81416
Pike-San Isabel Pueblo, 81008
Rio Grande Monte Vista, 81144
Routt Steamboat Springs, 80477
San Juan Durango, 81301
White River Glenwood Springs, 81602

Nebraska

Nebraska-Samuel R. McKelvie Chadron, 69337

South Dakota

Black Hills Custer, 57730

Wyoming

Bighorn Sheridan, 82801
Medicine Bow Laramie, 82070
Shoshone Cody, 82414

Southwestern Region
Federal Bldg.
517 Gold Ave., SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Arizona

Apache-Sitgreaves Springerville, 85938
Coconino Flagstaff, 86001
Coronado Tucson, 85701
Kaibab Williams, 86046
Prescott Prescott, 86301
Tonto Phoenix, 85038

New Mexico

Carson Taos, 87571
Cibola Albuquerque, 87112
Gila Silver City, 88061
Lincoln Alamogordo, 88310
Santa Fe Santa Fe, 87501

Intermountain Region
Federal Bldg.
324 25th St.
Ogden, UT 84401

Idaho

Boise Boise, 83702
Caribou Pocatello, 83201
Challis Challis, 83226
Payette McCall, 83638
Salmon Salmon, 83467
Sawtooth Twin Falls, 83301
Targhee St. Anthony, 83445

Nevada

Humboldt Elko, 89801
Toiyabe Reno, 89501

Utah

Ashley Vernal, 84078
Dixie Cedar City, 84720
Fishlake Richfield, 84701
Manti-LaSal Price, 84501
Uinta Provo, 84601
Wasatch-Cache Salt Lake City, 84138

Wyoming

Bridger-Teton Jackson, 83001

Pacific Southwest Region
630 Sansome St.
San Francisco, CA 94111

California

Angeles Pasadena, 91101
Cleveland San Diego, 92188
Eldorado Placerville, 95667
Inyo Bishop, 93514
Klamath Yreka, 96097
Lassen Susanville, 96130
Los Padres Goleta, 93117
Mendocino Willows, 95988
Modoc Alturas, 96101
Plumas Quincy, 95971
San Bernardino San Bernardino, 92408
Sequoia Porterville, 93257
Shasta-Trinity Redding, 96001
Sierra Fresno, 93721
Six Rivers Eureka, 95501
Stanislaus-Calaveras Big Tree Sonora, 95370
Tahoe Nevada City, 95959

Pacific Northwest Region
319 SW Pine St.
P.O. Box 3623
Portland, OR 97208

Oregon

Deschutes Bend, 97701
Fremont Lakeview, 97630
Malheur John Day, 97845
Mt. Hood Gresham, 97030
Ochoco Prineville, 97754
Rogue River Medford, 97501
Siskiyou Grants Pass, 97526
Siuslaw Corvallis, 97339
Umatilla Pendleton, 97801
Umpqua Roseburg, 97470
Wallowa-Whitman Baker, 97814
Willamette Eugene, 97440
Winema Klamath Falls, 97601

Washington

Colville Colville, 99114
Gifford Pinchot Vancouver, 98660
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie Seattle, 98104
Okanogan Okanogan, 98840
Olympic Olympia, 98507
Wenatchee Wenatchee, 98801

Eastern Region
310 West Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53203

Illinois

Shawnee Harrisburg, 62946

Indiana and Ohio

Wayne-Hoosier Bedford, 47421

Michigan

Hiawatha Escanaba, 49829
Huron-Manistee Cadillac, 49601
Ottawa Ironwood, 49938

Minnesota

Chippewa Cass Lake, 56633
Superior Duluth, 55801

Missouri

Mark Twain Rolla, 65401

New Hampshire and Maine

White Mountain Laconia, 03246

Pennsylvania

Allegheny Warren, 16365

Vermont

Green Mountain Rutland, 05701

West Virginia

Monongahela Elkins, 26241

Wisconsin

Chequamegon Park Falls, 54552
Nicolet Rhinelander, 54501

Southern Region
1720 Peachtree Rd., NW
Atlanta, GA 30367

Alabama

William B. Bankhead
Conecuh
Talladega
Tuskegee
Montgomery, 36107

Arkansas

Ouachita Hot Springs Nat'l Park, 71901
Ozark-St. Francis Russellville, 72801

Florida

Apalachicola
Ocala
Osceola
Tallahassee, 32308

Georgia

Chattahoochee and Oconee Gainesville, 30501

Kentucky

Daniel Boone Winchester, 40391

Louisiana

Kisatchie Pineville, 71360

Mississippi

Bienville
Delta
DeSoto
Holly Springs
Homochitto
Tombigbee
Jackson, 39269

North Carolina

Croatan
Nantahala
Pisgah
Uwharrie
Asheville, 28802

South Carolina

Francis Marion and Sumter Columbia, 29202

Tennessee

Cherokee Cleveland, 37311

Texas

Angelina
Davy Crockett
Sabine
Sam Houston
Lufkin, 75901

Virginia

George Washington Harrisonburg, 22801
Jefferson Roanoke, 24001

Field Offices of the Park Service

United States Department of the Interior

Alabama

Horseshoe Bend Natl. Military Park
Rt. 1, Box 103
Daviston, AL 36256

Russell Cave Natl. Mon.
Rt. 1, Box 175
Bridgeport, AL 35740

Tuskegee Institute Natl. Historic Site
399 Old Montgomery Rd.
Tuskegee, AL 36088

Arizona

Canyon de Chelly Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 588
Chinle, AZ 86503

Casa Grande Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 518
Coolidge, AZ 85228

Chiricahua Natl. Mon.
Dos Cabezas Rte., Box 6500
Willcox, AZ 85643

Coronado Natl. Mem.
R.R. 1, Box 126
Hereford, AZ 85615

Fort Bowie Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 158
Bowie, AZ 85605

Grand Canyon Natl. Park
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

Hubbell Trading Post Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 150
Ganado, AZ 86505

Montezuma Castle Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 219
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

Navajo Natl. Mon.
Tonalea, AZ 86044

Organ Pipe Cactus Natl. Mon.
Rt. 1, Box 100
Ajo, AZ 85321

Petrified Forest Natl. Park
P.O. Box 217
Petrified Forest Natl. Park, AZ 86028

Pipe Spring Natl. Mon.
Moccasin, AZ 86022

Saguaro Natl. Mon.
Rt. 8, Box 695
Tucson, AZ 85730

Sunset Crater Natl. Mon.
Tuba Star Route
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Tonto Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 707
Roosevelt, AZ 85545

Tumacacori Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 67
Tumacacori, AZ 85640

Tuzigoot Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 219
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

Walnut Canyon Natl. Mon.
Rt. 1, Box 25
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Wupatki Natl. Mon.
Tuba Star Route
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Arkansas

Arkansas Post Natl. Mem.
Rt. 1, Box 16
Gillett, AR 72055

Buffalo Natl. River
P.O. Box 1173
Harrison, AR 72601

Fort Smith Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 1406
Fort Smith, AR 72902

Hot Springs Natl. Park
P.O. Box 1860
Hot Springs Natl. Park, AR 71901

Pea Ridge Natl. Military Park
Pea Ridge, AR 72751

California

Cabrillo Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 6670
San Diego, CA 92106

Channel Islands Natl. Park
1901 Spinnaker Dr.
Ventura, CA 93001

Death Valley Natl. Mon., (Calif., Nev.)
Death Valley, CA 92328

Devils Postpile Natl. Mon.
c/o Sequoia and
Kings Canyon Natl. Parks
Three Rivers, CA 93271

Fort Point Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 29333
Presidio of San Francisco, CA 94129

Golden Gate Natl. Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

John Muir Natl. Historic Site
4202 Alhambra Ave.
Martinez, CA 94553

Joshua Tree Natl. Mon.
74485 Natl. Monument Dr.
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

Kings Canyon Natl. Park
Three Rivers, CA 93271

Lassen Volcanic Natl. Park
Mineral, CA 96063

Lava Beds Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 867
Tulelake, CA 96134

Muir Woods Natl. Mon.
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Pinnacles Natl. Mon.
Paicines, CA 95043

Point Reyes Natl. Seashore
Point Reyes, CA 94956

Redwood Natl. Park
1111 2nd St.
Crescent City, CA 95531

Santa Monica Mountains Natl. Recreation Area
22900 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 140
Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Sequoia Natl. Park
Three Rivers, CA 93271

Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity Natl. Recreation Area
P.O. Box 188
Whiskeytown, CA 96095

Yosemite Natl. Park
P.O. Box 577
Yosemite Natl. Park, CA 95389

Colorado

Bent's Old Fort Natl. Historic Site
35110 Hwy. 194 East
La Junta, CO 81050-9523

Black Canyon of the Gunnison Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 1648
Montrose, CO 81402

Colorado Natl. Mon.
Fruita, CO 81521

Curecanti Natl. Recreation Area
P.O. Box 1040
Gunnison, CO 81230

Dinosaur Natl. Mon. (Colo., Utah)
P.O. Box 210
Dinosaur, CO 81610

Florissant Fossil Beds Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 185
Florissant, CO 80816

Great Sand Dunes Natl. Mon.
Mosca, CO 81146

Hovenweep Natl. Mon. (Colo., Utah)
c/o Mesa Verde Natl. Park
CO 81330

Mesa Verde Natl. Park
Mesa Verde Natl. Park, CO 81330

Rocky Mountain Natl. Park
Estes Park, CO 80517

District of Columbia

Ford's Theatre Natl. Historic site
511 Tenth St., NW
Washington, DC 20004

Frederick Douglass Home
1411 W St., SE
Washington, DC 20020

Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Natl. Park Service, 2700 F St., NW
Washington, DC 20566

Lincoln Memorial
c/o Natl. Park Service
1100 Ohio Dr., SW
Washington, DC 20242

Lyndon Baines Johnson Mem. Grove on the Potomac
c/o Natl. Park Service
1100 Ohio Dr., SW
Washington, DC 20242

National Mall
c/o Natl. Park Service
1100 Ohio Dr., SW
Washington, DC 20242

Rock Creek Park
5000 Glover Rd., NW
Washington, DC 20008

Sewall-Belmont House Natl. Historic Site
144 Constitution Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002

Theodore Roosevelt Island
c/o Geo. Washington Mem. Pkwy.
Turkey Run Park
McLean, VA 22101

Thomas Jefferson Memorial
c/o Natl. Park Service
1100 Ohio Dr., SW
Washington, DC 20242

Washington Monument
c/o Natl. Park Service
1100 Ohio Dr., SW
Washington, DC 20242

White House
c/o Natl. Park Service
1100 Ohio Dr., SW
Washington, DC 20242

Florida

Big Cypress Natl. Preserve
Star Route Box 110
Ochopee, FL 33943

Biscayne Natl. Park
P.O. Box 1369
Homestead, FL 33090

Canaveral Natl. Seashore
P.O. Box 6447
Titusville, FL 32780

Castillo de San Marcos Natl. Mon.
1 Castillo Dr.
St. Augustine, FL 32084

DeSoto Natl. Mem.
75th St., NW
Bradenton, FL 33529

Everglades Natl. Park
P.O. Box 279
Homestead, FL 33030

Fort Caroline Natl. Mem.
12713 Fort Caroline Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32225

Fort Jefferson Natl. Mon.
c/o U.S. Coast Guard Base
Key West, FL 33040

Fort Matanzas Natl. Mon.
Rt. 1, Box 105
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Gulf Islands Natl. Seashore
P.O. Box 100
Gulf Breeze, FL 32561

Georgia

Andersonville Natl. Historic Site
Andersonville, GA 31711

Chattahoochee River Natl. Recreation Area
1905 Powers Ferry Rd., Suite 150
Marietta, GA 30067

Chickamauga and Chattanooga Natl. Military Park (Ga., Tenn.)
P.O. Box 2128
Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742

Cumberland Island Natl. Seashore
P.O. Box 806
St. Marys, GA 31558

Fort Frederica Natl. Mon.
Rt. 4, Box 286C
St. Simons Island, GA 31522

Fort Pulaski Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 98
Tybee Island, GA 31328

Kennesaw Mountain Natl. Battlefield Park
P.O. Box 1167
Marietta, GA 30061

Martin Luther King, Jr., Natl. Historic Site
522 Auburn Ave., NE
Atlanta, GA 30312

Ocmulgee Natl. Mon.
1207 Emery Hwy.
Macon, GA 31201

Idaho

Craters of the Moon Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 29
Arco, ID 83213

Nez Perce Natl. Historical Park
P.O. Box 93
Spalding, ID 83551

Illinois

Lincoln Home Natl. Historic Site
426 S. Seventh St.
Springfield, IL 62703

Indiana

George Rogers Clark Natl. Historical Park
401 S. Second St.
Vincennes, IN 47591

Indiana Dunes Natl. Lakeshore
1100 N. Mineral Springs Rd.
Porter, IN 46304

Lincoln Boyhood Natl. Mem.
Lincoln City, IN 47552

Iowa

Effigy Mounds Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box K
McGregor, IA 52157

Herbert Hoover Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 607
West Branch, IA 52358

Kansas

Fort Larned Natl. Historic Site
Rt. 3
Larned, KS 67550

Fort Scott Natl. Historic Site
Old Fort Blvd.
Fort Scott, KS 66701

Kentucky

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Natl. Historic Site
R.F.D. 1
Hodgenville, KY 42748

Cumberland Gap Natl. Historical Park (Ky., Tenn., Va.)
P.O. Box 840
Middlesboro, KY 40965

Mammoth Cave Natl. Park
Mammoth Cave, KY 42259

Louisiana

Jean Lafitte Natl. Historical Park and Preserve
c/o Municipal Auditorium
1201 St. Peters St.
New Orleans, LA 70116

Maine

Acadia Natl. Park
P.O. Box 177
Bar Harbor, ME 04609

Maryland

Antietam Natl. Battlefield Site
Box 158
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

Assateague Island Natl. Seashore (Md., Va.)
Rt. 2, Box 294
Berlin, MD 21811

Catoctin Mountain Park
Thurmont, MD 21788

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Natl. Historical Park (Md., D.C., W.Va.)
Box 158
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

Clara Barton Natl. Historic Site
5801 Oxford Rd
Glen Echo, MD 20768

Fort McHenry Natl. Mon. and Historic Shrine
E. Fort Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21230

Fort Washington Park, Natl. Capital Parks - East
1900 Anacostia Dr., SE
P.O. Box 38104
Washington, DC 20020

Greenbelt Park
6501 Greenbelt Rd
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Hampton Natl. Historic Site
535 Hampton Lane
Towson, MD 21204

Piscataway Park Natl. Capital Parks - East
5210 Indian Head Hwy
Oxon Hill, MD 20021

Massachusetts

Adams Natl. Historic Site
135 Adams St., P.O. Box 531
Quincy, MA 02269

Boston Natl. Historical Park
Charlestown Navy Yard
Boston, MA 02129

Cape Cod Natl. Seashore
South Wellfleet, MA 02663

Frederick Law Olmsted Natl. Historic Site
99 Warren St
Brookline, MA 02146

John Fitzgerald Kennedy Natl. Historic Site
83 Beals St
Brookline, MA 02146

Longfellow Natl. Historic Site
105 Brattle St
Cambridge, MA 02138

Lowell Natl. Historical Park
171 Merrimack St
Lowell, MA 01852

Minute Man Natl. Historical Park
P.O. Box 160
174 Liberty St
Concord, MA 01742

Salem Maritime Natl. Historic Site
Custom House, Derby St
Salem, MA 01970

Saugus Iron Works Natl. Historic Site
244 Central St
Saugus, MA 01906

Springfield Armory Natl. Historic Site
1 Armory Square
Springfield, MA 01105

Michigan

Isle Royale Natl. Park
87 N. Ripley St
Houghton, MI 49931

Pictured Rocks Natl. Lakeshore
P.O. Box 40
Munising, MI 49862

Sleeping Bear Dunes Natl. Lakeshore
400 Main St
Frankfort, MI 49635

Minnesota

Grand Portage Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 666
Grand Marais, MN 55604

Pipestone Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 727
Pipestone, MN 56164

Voyageurs Natl. Park
P.O. Box 50
International Falls, MN 56649

Mississippi

Brices Cross Roads Natl. Battlefield Site
c/o Natchez Trace Parkway
R.R. 1, NT-143
Tupelo, MS 38801

Gulf Islands Natl. Seashore
3500 Park Rd
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
(See also Fla.)

Natchez Trace Pkwy. (Miss., Ala., Tenn.)
R.R. 1, NT-143
Tupelo, MS 38801

Tupelo Natl. Battlefield
c/o Natchez Trace Parkway
R.R. 1, NT-143
Tupelo, MS 38801

Vicksburg Natl. Military Park
P.O. Box 349
Vicksburg, MS 39180

Missouri

George Washington Carver Natl. Monument
P.O. Box 38
Diamond, MO 64840

Jefferson Natl. Expansion Memorial Natl. Historic Site
11 North 4th St
St. Louis, MO 63102

Ozark Natl. Scenic Riverways
P.O. Box 490
Van Buren, MO 63965

Wilson's Creek Natl. Battlefield
Postal Drawer C
Republic, MO 65738

Montana

Big Hole Natl. Battlefield
P.O. Box 237
Wisdom, MT 59761-0237

Bighorn Canyon Natl. Recreation Area (Mont., Wyo.)
P.O. Box 458
Fort Smith, MT 59035

Custer Battlefield Natl. Monument
P.O. Box 39
Crow Agency, MT 59022

Glacier Natl. Park
West Glacier, MT 59936

Grant-Kohrs Ranch Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 790
Deer Lodge, MT 59722

Nebraska

Agate Fossil Beds Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 427
Gering, NE 69341

Homestead Natl. Mon. of America
Rt. 3, Box 47
Beatrice, NE 68310-9416

Scotts Bluff Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 427
Gering, NE 69341

Nevada

Lake Mead Natl. Recreation Area (Nev., Ariz.)
601 Nevada Hwy
Boulder City, NV 89005

Lehman Caves Natl. Mon.
Baker, NV 89311

New Hampshire

Saint-Gaudens Natl. Historic Site
R.R. 2, Box 73
Cornish, NH 03745

New Jersey

Edison Natl. Historic Site
Main St. and Lakeside Ave
West Orange, NJ 07052

Gateway Natl. Recreation Area (Sandy Hook Unit)
P.O. Box 437
Highlands, NJ 07732 (See also N.Y.)

Morristown Natl. Historical Park
Washington Place
Morristown, NJ 07960

New Mexico

Aztec Ruins Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box U
Aztec, NM 87410

Bandelier Natl. Mon.
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Capulin Mountain Natl. Mon.
Capulin, NM 88414

Carlsbad Caverns Natl. Park
3225 National Parks Hwy
Carlsbad, NM 88220

Chaco Culture Natl. Historical Park
Star Route 4, Box 6500
Bloomfield, NM 87413

El Morro Natl. Mon.
Ramah, NM 87321

Fort Union Natl. Mon.
Watrous, NM 87753

Gila Cliff Dwellings Natl. Mon.
Gila Hot Springs Rt. 11, Box 100
Silver City, NM 88061

Pecos Natl. Mon.
P.O. Drawer 11
Pecos, NM 87552

Salinas Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 496
Mountainair, NM 87036

White Sands Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 458
Alamogordo, NM 88310

New York

Castle Clinton Natl. Mon.
c/o Manhattan Sites, NPS
26 Wall St
New York, NY 10005

Eleanor Roosevelt Natl. Historic Site
249 Albany Post Rd
Hyde Park, NY 12538

Federal Hall Natl. Mem.
c/o Manhattan Sites, NPS
26 Wall St
New York, NY 10005

Fire Island Natl. Seashore
120 Laurel St
Patchogue, NY 11772

Fort Stanwix Natl. Mon.
112 E. Park St
Rome, NY 13440

Gateway Natl. Recreation Area
Floyd Bennett Field, Bldg. 69
Brooklyn, NY 11234 (See also N.J.)

General Grant Natl Mem.
122nd St. and Riverside Dr
New York, NY 10027

Hamilton Grange Natl. Mem.
287 Convent Ave
New York, NY 10031

Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt Natl. Historic Site
249 Albany Post Rd
Hyde Park, NY 12538

Martin Van Buren Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 545
Kinderhook, NY 12106

Sagamore Hill Natl. Historic Site
Cove Neck Rd., #304
Oyster Bay, NY 11771

Saratoga Natl. Historical Park
R.D. 2, Box 33
Stillwater, NY 12170

Statue of Liberty Natl. Mon. (N.Y., N.J.)
Liberty Island
New York, NY 10004

Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace Natl. Historic Site
28 E. 20th St
New York, NY 10003

Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Natl. Historic Site
641 Delaware Ave
Buffalo, NY 14202

Vanderbilt Mansion Natl. Historic Site
249 Albany Post Rd
Hyde Park, NY 12538

Women's Rights Natl. Historical Park
116 Fall St
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

North Carolina

Blue Ridge Parkway (N.C., Va.)
700 Northwestern Bank Bldg
Asheville, NC 28801

Cape Hatteras Natl. Seashore
Rt. 1, Box 675
Manteo, NC 27954

Cape Lookout Natl. Seashore
P.O. Box 690
Beaufort, NC 28516

Carl Sandburg Home Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 395
Flat Rock, NC 28731

Fort Raleigh Natl. Historic Site
Cape Hatteras Group, Rt. 1, Box 675
Manteo, NC 27954

Guilford Courthouse Natl. Military Park
P.O. Box 9806
Greensboro, NC 27408

Moores Creek Natl. Battlefield
P.O. Box 69
Currie, NC 28435

Wright Brothers Natl. Mem.
Cape Hatteras Group
Rt. 1, Box 675
Manteo, NC 27954

North Dakota

Fort Union Trading Post Natl. Historic Site (N. Dak., Mont.)
Buford Route
Williston, ND 58801

Knife River Indian Villages Natl. Historic Site
R.R. 1
Stanton, ND 58571

Theodore Roosevelt Natl. Park
P.O. Box 7
Medora, ND 58645

Ohio

Cuyahoga Valley Natl. Recreation Area
15610 Vaughn Rd
Brecksville, OH 44141

Mound City Group Natl. Mon.
16062 State Route 104
Chillicothe, OH 45601

Perry's Victory and International Peace Mem.
P.O. Box 78
Put-in-Bay, OH 43456

William Howard Taft Natl. Historic Site
2038 Auburn Ave
Cincinnati, OH 45219

Oklahoma

Chickasaw Natl. Recreation Area
P.O. Box 201
Sulphur, OK 73086

Oregon

Crater Lake Natl. Park
P.O. Box 7
Crater Lake, OR 97604

Fort Clatsop Natl. Mem.
Rt. 3, Box 604-FC
Astoria, OR 97103

John Day Fossil Beds Natl. Mon.
420 W. Main St
John Day, OR 97845

Oregon Caves Natl. Mon.
19000 Caves Hwy
Cave Junction, OR 97523

Pennsylvania

Allegheny Portage Railroad Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 247
Cresson, PA 16630

Delaware Water Gap Natl. Recreation Area (Pa., N.J.)
Bushkill, PA 18324

Edgar Allen Poe Natl. Historic Site
c/o Independence Natl. Historical Park
313 Walnut St
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Eisenhower Natl. Historic Site
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Fort Necessity Natl. Battlefield
The National Pike
R.D. 2, Box 528
Farmington, PA 15437

Friendship Hill Natl. Historic Site
c/o Fort Necessity Natl. Battlefield
R.D. 2, Box 528
Farmington, PA 15437

Gettysburg Natl. Military Park
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Hopewell Village Natl. Historic Site
R.D. 1, Box 345
Elverson, PA 19520

Independence Natl. Historical Park
313 Walnut St
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Johnstown Flood Natl. Mem.
c/o Allegheny Portage Railroad Natl.
Historic Site, P.O. Box 247
Cresson, PA 16630

Thaddeus Kosciuszko Natl. Mem.
c/o Independence Natl. Historical Park
313 Walnut St
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River (Pa., N.Y.)
P.O. Box C
Narrowsburg, NY 12764

Valley Forge National Historical Park
Valley Forge, PA 19481

Puerto Rico

San Juan Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 712
San Juan, PR 00902

Rhode Island

Roger Williams Natl. Mem.
P.O. Box 367, Annex Station
Providence, RI 02901

South Carolina

Congaree Swamp National Mon.
P.O. Box 11938
Columbia, SC 29211

Cowpens Natl. Battlefield
P.O. Box 308
Chesnee, SC 29323

Fort Sumter Natl. Mon.
1214 Middle St
Sullivans Island, SC 29482

Kings Mountain Natl. Military Park
P.O. Box 31
Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Ninety Six Natl. Historic Site
Hwy 248
south of Ninety Six, SC 29666

South Dakota

Badlands Natl. Park
P.O. Box 6
Interior, SD 57750

Jewel Cave Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 351
Custer, SD 57730

Mount Rushmore Natl. Mem.
P.O. Box 268
Keystone, SD 57751

Wind Cave Natl. Park
Hot Springs, SD 57747

Tennessee

Andrew Johnson Natl. Historic Site
College and Depot Sts
Greeneville, TN 37743

Big South Fork Natl. River and Recreation Area (Tenn., Ky.)
P.O. Drawer 630
Oneida, TN 37841

Fort Donelson Natl. Military Park
P.O. Box F
Dover, TN 37058

Great Smoky Mountains Natl. Park (Tenn., N.C.)
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

Obed Wild and Scenic River
P.O. Drawer 630
Oneida, TN 37841

Shiloh Natl. Military Park
P.O. Box 61
Shiloh, TN 38376

Stones River Natl. Battlefield
Rt. 10, Box 401, Old Nashville Hwy
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

Texas

Alibates Flint Quarries Natl. Mon.
c/o Lake Meredith NRA, P.O. Box 1438
Fritch, TX 79036

Amistad Natl. Recreation Area
Star Route 2, Box 5-P
Del Rio, TX 78840

Big Bend Natl. Park
Big Bend Natl. Park
TX 79834

Big Thicket Natl. Preserve
P.O. Box 7408
Beaumont, TX 77706

Chamizal Natl. Mem.
P.O. Box 722
El Paso, TX 79944-0722

Fort Davis Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 1456
Fort Davis, TX 79734

Guadalupe Mountains Natl. Park
3225 Natl. Parks Hwy
Carlsbad, NM 88220

Lake Meredith Natl. Recreation Area
P.O. Box 1438
Fritch, TX 79036

Lyndon B. Johnson Natl. Historical Park
P.O. Box 329
Johnson City, TX 78636

Padre Island Natl. Seashore
9405 S. Padre Island Dr
Corpus Christi, TX 78418

San Antonio Missions Natl. Historical Park
727 E. Durango
San Antonio, TX 78206

Utah

Arches Natl. Park
446 S. Main St
Moab, UT 84532

Bryce Canyon Natl. Park
Bryce Canyon, UT 84717

Canyonlands Natl. Park
446 S. Main St
Moab, UT 84532

Capitol Reef Natl. Park
Torrey, UT 84775

Cedar Breaks Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 749
Cedar City, UT 84720

Glen Canyon Natl. Recreation Area (Utah, Ariz.)
P.O. Box 1507
Page, AZ 86040

Golden Spike Natl. Historic Site
P.O. Box 394
Brigham City, UT 84302

Natural Bridges Natl. Mon.
c/o Canyonlands Natl. Park
446 S. Main St
Moab, UT 84532

Rainbow Bridge Natl. Mon.
c/o Glen Canyon Natl. Recreation Area
P.O. Box 1507
Page, AZ 86040

Timpanogos Cave Natl. Mon.
R.R. 3, Box 200
American Fork, UT 84003

Zion Natl. Park
Springdale, UT 84767-1099

Virginia

Appomattox Court House Natl. Historical Park
P.O. Box 218
Appomattox, VA 24522

Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Mem.
c/o Geo. Washington Mem. Pkwy
Turkey Run Park
McLean, VA 22101

Booker T. Washington Natl. Mon.
Rt. 1, Box 195
Hardy, VA 24101

Colonial Natl. Historical Park
P.O. Box 210
Yorktown, VA 23690

Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Natl. Military Park
P.O. Box 679
Fredericksburg, VA 22404

George Washington Birthplace Natl. Mon.
Washington's Birthplace, VA 22575

George Washington Mem. Pkwy. (Va., Md.)
Turkey Run Park
McLean, VA 22101

Maggie L. Walker Natl. Historic Site
c/o Richmond Natl. Battlefield Park
3215 E. Broad St
Richmond, VA 23223

Manassas Natl. Battlefield Park
P.O. Box 1830
Manassas, VA 22110

Petersburg Natl. Battlefield
P.O. Box 549
Petersburg, VA 23804

Prince William Forest Park
P.O. Box 208
Triangle, VA 22172

Richmond Natl. Battlefield Park
3215 E. Broad St
Richmond, VA 23223

Shenandoah Natl. Park
Luray, VA 22835

Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts
1551 Trap Rd
Vienna, VA 22180

Washington

Coulee Dam Natl. Recreation Area
P.O. Box 37
Coulee Dam, WA 99116

Fort Vancouver Natl. Historic Site
1501 E. Evergreen Blvd
Vancouver, WA 98661-3897

Klondike Gold Rush Natl. Historical Park
117 S. Main St
Seattle, WA 98104 (See also Alaska)

Lake Chelan Natl. Recreation Area
800 State St
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

Mount Rainier Natl. Park
Tahoma Woods, Star Route
Ashford, WA 98304

North Cascades Natl. Park
800 State St
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

Olympic Natl. Park
600 E. Park Ave
Port Angeles, WA 98362

Ross Lake Natl. Recreation Area
800 State St
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

San Juan Island Natl. Historical Park
300 Cattle Point Rd
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Whitman Mission Natl. Historic Site
R.R. 2, Box 247
Walla Walla, WA 99362

West Virginia

Harpers Ferry Natl. Historical Park (W. Va., Md., Va.)
P.O. Box 65
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

New River Gorge Natl. River
P.O. Drawer V
Oak Hill, WV 25901

Wisconsin

Apostle Islands Natl. Lakeshore
P.O. Box 729
Bayfield, WI 54814

St. Croix and Lower St. Croix Natl. Scenic Riverway (Wis., Minn.)
P.O. Box 708
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024

Wyoming

Devils Tower Natl. Mon.
Devils Tower, WY 82714

Fort Laramie Natl. Historic Site
Fort Laramie, WY 82212

Fossil Butte Natl. Mon.
P.O. Box 527
Kemmerer, WY 83101

Grand Teton Natl. Park
P.O. Drawer 170
Moose, WY 83012

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Mem. Pkwy.
c/o Grand Teton Natl. Park
P.O. Drawer 170
Moose, WY 83012

Yellowstone Natl. Park (Wyo., Idaho, Mont.)
P.O. Box 168
Yellowstone Natl. Park, WY 82190

Bill Eates

Trailer Life's Guide to the National Parks and Forests is a cooperative effort of the American Recreation Coalition (ARC), the National Park Service (NPS) and the Forest Service (FS). Research and compilation were provided by Contributing Editor Richard Carroll. For additional information on individual parks and forests please refer to pages 34-39 for regional offices. ARC may be contacted at ~~1901 L Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington D.C. 20036~~, (202) 466-6870. TL Enterprises, Inc., home of *Trailer Life*, America's leading recreational vehicle magazine, and the Good Sam Club, the country's largest RV club, is headquartered at 29901 Agoura Road, Agoura, California 91301, (213) 991-4980. On behalf of all participating agencies, we hope that the information provided is of interest and assistance and inspires you to use, [illegible]e and preserve your national parks and forests. TL

AMERICAN RECREATION COALITION
1915 Eye Street, N.W., # 700
Washington, D.C. 20006

TRAILER LIFE

Senator **Wallop**. Thank you, Mr. Crandall.

I have a problem which is becoming unavoidable. We'll have a vote within the next 15 minutes. And the ability to reestablish this is going to be rather complex. I wonder if you would indulge me with a request to summarize your testimony as we go on through. All of the statements and their appendixes will be in the record in full, but I would like the opportunity to hear what you consider—each of you—the essential points of your testimony as we go on.

And I apologize for that.

Mr. Guenther.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE C. GUENTHER, NATIONAL TOUR ASSOCIATION, ACCOMPANIED BY HON. JIM SANTINI, NATIONAL TOUR ASSOCIATION

Mr. **Guenther**. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My name is George C. Guenther. I'm president of Talmage Tours in Philadelphia, PA. My company has 34 years experience in the group tour business and is a founding member of the National Tour Association, which is the organization that represents the group tour operators of the Nation. I presently serve as the industry and government relations chairman for NTA, an organization which provides group travel sales and services for motorcoaches, cruise lines and airlines, amounting to some $9 billion a year.

The National Tour Association is critically concerned about prospective changes in national park management and policy. For over 60 years, group tour operators have arranged for large numbers of senior citizens, handicapped travelers, and middle to lower income tourists to experience, first hand, the beauty and recreational opportunities of our national parks.

With 45 passengers to a motorcoach, the group tour represents the most fuel-efficient, people-controlled mode of travel. In addition, the motorcoach reduces the environmental impact of vehicular travel. The motorcoach tour visitor represents a significant component of the 248 million visitors to our national parks in 1984.

The recent appointment of Mr. Mott as National Park Director and the soon-to-be-announced Presidential Commission on Recreation ushers in a prospective era of substantial management reevaluation within the U.S. Park Service that would seem to suggest the prospect of some changes in the mode of park administration and regulations concerning activities within the parks. These changes can be positive or negative.

The membership of the National Tour Association wants to ensure that there will be adequate opportunity to present the real world problems and interests of the motorcoach group tour operator to Director Mott and his administrative team. Certainly that desire applies with equal vigor to the upcoming Presidential Commission.

In his testimony, Mr. Mott said: "Our park system requires an investment for our children, our grandchildren, and our great grandchildren." We agree that the parks are for the people now and the people in the future.

The National Tour Association wishes to commend you for taking the legislative lead in holding these hearings. We will cooperate with you in any way that we can.

Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Guenther follows:]

TESTIMONY

GEORGE C. GUENTHER
NATIONAL TOUR ASSOCIATION

BEFORE

CHAIRMAN MALCOLM WALLOP
PUBLIC LANDS, RESERVED WATER AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

JULY 18, 1985

Mr. Chairman, my name is George C. Guenther. I am President of Talmage Tours in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. My company has 34 years experience in the group tour business and is a founding member of the National Tour Association (NTA). I presently serve as the Industry & Government Relations Chairman for NTA. I am testifying before you today on behalf of NTA. This is the organization that represents the group tour operators of the nation. Our operator members provide the group travel services for motor coaches, cruise lines, and air lines. The SEA Study of 1984 stated that we represent a $9 billion a year industry. Mr. Hal Mishnick, our Immediate Past President, is presently serving on the National Park Advisory Board.

The National Tour Association is critically concerned about the prospective changes in National Park management and policy. For over 60 years group tour operators have arranged for large numbers of senior citizens, handicapped travellers, and middle to lower income tourists to experience, first hand, the beauty and recreational opportunities of our National Parks. With 45 passengers to a coach, the group tour represents the most fuel efficient, people controlled mode of travel. In addition, the motor coach reduces the environmental impact of vehicular travel. The motor coach tour visitor represents a significant component of the 248,000,000 visits to our National Parks in 1984.

NTA is proud of its record of cooperation with and assistance to the U.S. National Park Service. In addition to the present service of Mr. Mishnick, NTA member operators participated in a special joint project with Park Service personnel at the Gettysburg National Park and the Great Smokey Mountain Park. The National Tour Association and the Park supervisory personnel drafted a guide post brochure and map identifying preferred routes and the specific activities available. This pilot effort could serve as a model for similar cooperative planning exercises in all of our National Parks.

NTA ALSO JOINED WITH THE U.S. TRAVEL AND TOURISM ADMINISTRATION TO PRODUCE A DETAILED MAP OF OUR NATION'S U.S. PARK SYSTEM. THAT MAP UNDERWENT A DETAILED EDITING BY THE U.S. PARK SERVICE. THEREAFTER, THOUSANDS OF COPIES WERE GIVEN TO USTTA FOR DISTRIBUTION TO PROSPECTIVE FOREIGN VISITORS TO OUR NATIONAL PARKS. WE ARE ADVISED THAT THE PARK SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE ALSO VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE MAP.

THE RECENT APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM PENN MOTT AS NATIONAL PARK DIRECTOR AND THE SOON-TO-BE-ANNOUNCED PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON RECREATION USHERS IN A PROSPECTIVE ERA OF SUBSTANTIAL MANAGEMENT REEVALUATION WITHIN THE U.S. PARK SERVICE THAT WOULD SEEM TO SUGGEST THE PROSPECT OF SOME CHANGES IN THE MODE OF PARK ADMINISTRATION AND REGULATIONS CONTROLLING ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE PARK. THESE CHANGES CAN BE POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE. THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL TOUR ASSOCIATION WANTS TO INSURE THAT THERE WILL BE ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THE REAL WORLD PROBLEMS AND INTERESTS OF THE MOTOR COACH GROUP TOUR OPERATOR TO DIRECTOR MOTT AND HIS ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM. CERTAINLY THAT DESIRE APPLIES WITH EQUAL VIGOR TO THE UPCOMING PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION. NTA IS VERY ANXIOUS TO PARTICIPATE WITH A MEANINGFUL CONTRIBUTION IN THE FACT FINDING AND EVALUATION PROCESS THAT WILL BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE UPCOMING AGENDA OF DIRECTOR MOTT AND THE COMMISSION.

THE NATIONAL TOUR ASSOCIATION WISHES TO COMMEND CHAIRMAN WALLOP FOR TAKING THE LEGISLATIVE LEAD BY INSTITUTING THE FACT FINDING FORUM EXAMINING THE PROBLEMS CONFRONTING OUR NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC RECREATION AREAS. THE NTA HOPES TO CONTINUE THE CONSTRUCTIVE ASSISTANCE ROLE WITH THE U.S. PARK SERVICE AS THE LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE REEVALUATION IS UNDERTAKEN. THE TOUR OPERATOR IS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE ANNOUNCED PROSPECT OF "CAPS" ON ADMISSION TO CERTAIN NATIONAL PARKS. THE MEMBERS

INVOLVED IN NATIONAL PARK TOURS ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE RUMORED INCREASES IN PARK ENTRY OR USE FEES. WILL THE FEE BE FAIRLY AND EVENLY IMPOSED? WILL ANY INCREASE IN FEE BE RETURNED TO THE POINT OF ORIGIN FOR ENHANCING FACILITIES AND SERVICES? OR, WILL THE INCREASED FEE MERELY BE REGARDED AS A QUICK AND EASY, SMALL-DOLLAR OFFSET TO THE NATION'S $200+ BILLION DOLLAR DEFICIT?

ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL TOUR ASSOCIATION I WANT TO AGAIN EMPHASIZE OUR APPRECIATION TO CHAIRMAN WALLOP FOR COMMENCING THE LEGISLATIVE INQUIRY INTO OUR NATIONAL PARKS AND DOMESTIC RECREATION.

THANK YOU FOR PERMITTING NTA TO SHARE IN YOUR LEGISLATIVE FORUM.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you very much, Mr. Guenther.

Mr. Pritchard.

STATEMENT OF PAUL C. PRITCHARD, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL PARKS AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Mr. PRITCHARD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Thank you for this opportunity to discuss this very important report and also to be here to hear the comments of the Director of the Park Service.

Let me just simply summarize the entire 20 pages of testimony and our report by saying that we have a challenge before us. The question is whether this will be an era of inaction or an age of resolution for the future of the National Park System.

Our proposals that we have included in this testimony begin with the very important question of the need for park protection legislation. And I would simply like to recommend to you or commend to you this Land and Water Law Review from the University of Wyoming which we will present as part of our testimony.[1]

I think the concluding statement made in that report is very significant. In it, Professor Keiter says, "In view of the pervasive external threats problems facing the National Park System, it seems desirable to address the issue through a comprehensive legislation solution."

I think that speaks well for what Senator Chafee and what we have tried to say, and we would hope that you would take action and we would be ready at any time to assist you in addressing that question that Senator Chafee raised this morning.

Let me summarize the other points by simply saying that it seems to us the issues that we're facing are critical. It is a time when the parks have never been threatened as much as they are today. We do need park protection legislation. We need to increase that obligation rate, to use more than the 50 percent of the funds that we're now obligating, that Congress has authorized for spending and appropriated. We need to carry out carrying capacity studies and make them part of the implementation programs by the managers in the field. And our association is working with the Park Service to develop a carrying capacity study process.

We need to protect new areas and we need to revive the new area study program that was part of the Park Service as well as the National Natural Landmarks Program, which has somewhat declined in the past few years. And, finally, we need to increase that staff for interpretation for science and resource management.

The National Parks and Conservation Association, sir, is pleased to be here and honored to have this opportunity to support this very important hearing which we hope will be the beginning of that age of resolution.

Thank you sir.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Pritchard follows:]

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[1] The Land and Water Law Review has been retained in subcommittee files.

STATEMENT OF PAUL C. PRITCHARD, PRESIDENT
NATIONAL PARKS AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND RESERVED WATERS
U.S. SENATE

ON

THE FUTURE OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

JULY 18, 1985

Mr. Chairman and other distinguished members of the Subcommittee, I am Paul C. Pritchard, President of the National Parks and Conservation Association, located at 1701 18th Street NW, Washington DC. We welcome this opportunity to appear before the Subcommittee, and commend you for your leadership in recognizing the urgent need and opportunity to assess the trends and events affecting the future of the national park system. We encourage you to consider and act upon a wide array of needs facing the parks before it is too late.

By careful design, uncommon good luck, hard work, or historical accident, the national park system has evolved over the past 113 years to become the finest such array of natural, cultural, and recreational resources in the world. We in 1985, are the fortunate beneficiaries of the good work of the conservation leaders, in and out of government, who worked to establish these areas, and this fact makes all the more important the responsibility which we all share to pass along the national park system's resources intact to future generations.

All of us in the field of park management and protection, and you in the Congress who set the policies which apply to the system's resources, can pay the system no finer tribute when we depart from this work than to be able to say that we have upheld these treasures. Hopefully, we will be able to say that the system has materially improved under our care. Not that the resources have improved, except in that we have corrected human mistakes of the past, but that we have improved the management and protection of the parks, to the point that the natural areas of the system are the pristine wonders which God made them; and that the historic and cultural sites of the system are maintained in a setting conducive to preservation of their features, appreciative of their inherent dignity, and interpreted in a manner which will give new meaning to our lives.

The American public understands that there is a serious problem facing the national park system. There is a popular myth, however, even among generally well-informed conservationists that national parks once designated are preserved and protected for all time, and thus we can turn our attention to other lands and environmental problems of concern. Unfortunately, this popular belief is far from true. The National Parks are seriously threatened all across the nation. The problems facing the

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system have arisen, cumulatively, quietly in some cases, and insideously, "whittling away" as one Park Service director said, at the integrity of the parks' resources.

In our view, these problems and opportunities are roughly divisible into five categories.

First, the integrity of park ecosystems and historic landscapes has been seriously jeopardized by the encroachment of society in all its forms around park boundaries in a manner totally beyond the control and often beyond the comprehension of either the Service or those engaged in the encroachment.

Second, the system has grown in size and responsibility without a concomitant growth in the size of the Service which cares for it.

Third, the Service to date has not adequately responded to the cumulative impact of many threats by either bringing into the Service or selecting from within, a large number of resource management specialists and resource scientists who can give the Service the skills and the data it needs to make informed decisions and defend them.

Fourth, the phenomenal popularity of the parks has been reflected in the astounding growth in visitation and the tremendous diversification in the types of use which the parks must absorb. Unfortunately, the Service has been altogether too timid in acknowledging and responding to the need for visitor impact management as required by law.

Fifth, and some would say, most importantly, the Service and the system have faced the most sudden and often conflicting pressure of politicization of any agency at any level of government.

Somehow, working together, our Nation's leaders in Congress, the professionals of the Service and the millions of citizens throughout the country whose love of and support for the national parks has never waivered, must restore the resources of the parks which have been damaged, protect those which are threatened, and maintain that which is intact.

Mr. Chairman, our statement that follows is divided into three parts. First, I will address the resource management responsibilities and problems facing the System. Second, I will discuss the problem which the very popularity of the parks has brought about, and third I will address the composition of the System itself, and the opportunities for enhancing it.

I. Resource Management and Protection

In the late 1970s NPCA became increasingly aware that the natural and cultural resources of the national parks, and therefore the very essence of the parks' purposes, were coming under increasing pressure from incompatible activities. As we looked at the kind of issues and conflicts in which NPCA was involved we realized that these conflicts were not isolated incidents but rather a systemwide and pervasive challenge to the health of the national park system as it was envisioned by its original creators. This led in 1979 to an NPCA survey of adjacent land impacts on parks. The findings were shocking. NPCA's survey led to the more comprehensive 1980 NPS State of the Parks Report and the alarming conclusions now familiar to many of us. Virtually every unit of the national park system was found to be facing serious threats to the integrity of its resources. What was particularly disturbing was that nearly 50 percent of the problems confronting the parks were due to activities outside parks, particularly on other federal lands.

Since 1980 the Service has floundered in trying to grope with this challenge. The Administration's response was to invest virtually all the new monies available to the NPS into infrastructure repairs through the Park Restoration and Improvement Program (PRIP). After Congress added $10 million in Fiscal Year 1983, PRIP began to focus somewhat on pressing resource problems, however these funds enabled the Service to address only a small fraction of the internal threats and largely ignored the external ones. The important point is that the 1980 State of the Parks Report failed to illicit from the NPS or the Department of the Interior a comprehensive servicewide commitment to alleviating or eliminating these devastating challenges.

These are not simple problems nor will needed monies alone be the sole solution to improving the status of our parks. A myriad of projects such as oil and gas development on lands adjacent and within park units, tar sand development adjacent to and within park units, the proposal for a high level nuclear waste dump immediately adjacent to Canyonlands National Park, geothermal development threatening to disrupt the delicate thermal features, of which Old Faithful in Yellowstone National Park is a part, as well as posing a threat to other units, coal mining and possible power plant construction directly adjacent to units of the system are all activities which threaten the ability of the National Park Service to maintain the parks "unimpaired for future generations." Each of these projects poses threats to air quality, water quality, water quantity, to the solitude one seeks in visiting these preserves, or to preserving the natural habitat needed for the survival of wild and free roaming animals.

Mr. Chairman, NPCA has prepared a representative list of specific threats to individual park units as well as a brief description of several generic threats. These are attached to this statement. I would also like to share with the Committee an opinion piece which appeared in The New York Times on June 7, 1985 by John Oakes entitled "'Bye National Parks," and one in The Christian Science Monitor on July 11, 1985 entitled "America's crown jewels are losing their sparkle" by the Chairman of the House Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation, Representative Bruce Vento (D-MN).

Since 1980 we have seen great improvement in the understanding of where and, to some extent, how our parks are under siege. A comprehensive solution has, however, proven to be a far more difficult task for the NPS to craft.

NPCA is greatly encouraged that Director Mott has embraced resources protection as one of the primary objectives of his 12 point plan. There are many dedicated individuals within the Park Service who have tried to devise solutions to the threats posed by development but without a servicewide comprehensive response the solution will evade us all.

Of primary importance must be a Departmental "re-recognition" that the mission of the National Park Service is to preserve distinctive natural resources, significant cultural sites, and outstanding recreational resources for the enjoyment, appreciation, and education of present and future generations, as well as a recognition that the goals of this mission are inviolate and can not be compromised at the penpoint of a cost/benefit analysis.

Despite the now widespread recognition that the parks face a plethora of threats from external sources, to date the Administration has abjectly failed to develop a comprehensive response to the problem. For four years, the Administration has opposed any and all efforts to achieve a comprehensive legislative solution to the problem of external threats, and has not developed any solution administratively, utilizing authorities already available.

NPCA has maintained throughout the legislative debate on the park protection bills that most if not all of the "authorities" contained in these bills were already available to the Secretary and/or President, but that in the absence of any willingness on their part to utilize these authorities, Congress should direct them to do so by enacting legislation. The fact that thus far the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has also been unwilling to address this growing problem, is not only a profound disappointment to us, but is in the long run quite harmful to the resources of the System.

I again urge this Committee to seriously consider the need for new legislation addressing the problem of protecting the parks from external threats. In this regard, one of the best legal analyses which I have seen on the various approaches to park protection has recently appeared in the University of Wyoming College of Law's Land and Water Law Review. I offer for the Committee's consideration the article entitled "On Protecting the National Parks From the External Threats Dilemma," by Robert B. Keiter.

Both the Administration and the Congress should look closely at Mr. Keiter's careful analysis of the problem, and his conclusion that, "In view of the pervasive external threats problem facing the national park system, it seems desirable to address the issue through a comprehensive legislative solution."

There are those in both the Administration and the Congress who continue to believe that there is no real external threat problem facing the parks. This was, in fact, precisely the view taken by the BLM during meetings in recent months within the Department on resolving conflicts among Interior agencies. Although these meetings began as a forum for discussing park protection, the conclusions to date indicate that the only goal sought it to avoid or resolve conflicts between agencies.

This inadequate response of the Administration to a serious condition facing the parks is not adequate. The Administration fails to give the needed direction to the whole Department that they also have an affirmative responsibility to protect the parks.

Rather they must acknowledge that actions on federal lands around national parks are causing problems for park resources, and must develop a policy that recognizes the responsibility of all Interior agencies, and others, to assure that their actions do not damage park resources. In our view, assuring that national parks system resources are fully protected should be an affirmative objective for all levels of the federal government, taking priority, if necessary, over other aspects of an agency's mission.

This Departmental commitment would then serve as the measure against which to frame conflict resolution, within which to shape visitor use patterns, and by which the addition of new areas can be judged. This may sound like a simple need but it truly reflects how seriously the Department has strayed from its original obligations to the parks.

We have heard, Mr. Chairman, similar sounding commitments in the past. Examine for a moment the actions of the Department. In the last three budget years resources management has not received the level of support nor has it been given the increased priority that the Department has led us to believe that it would. In fact resources funding has been the lowest among eight listed priorities. We believe that Director Mott will reestablish the funding priorities for resources management and look forward to his recommended budgets.

If the Department does establish a common of purpose of park protection then the development of a comprehensive long range plan , as Director Mott has requested, becomes a matter of process. NPCA believes that there are critical elements to a comprehensive plan which include:

1. the development of baseline resource inventories of park resources and their status (i.e. threatened, declining, increasing) and monitoring systems to continue to be able to actively assess critical situations.

2. The need exists for a prioritization of resource improvement projects based on severity of threats but not one in which choices of relative resource importance must be made. The Resource Management Plans were an attempt - a beginning to establish these priorities. The existing plans were developed without the necessary emphasis on external threats and without any centralized oversight. The existing Plans are not available for every unit of the system nor is there any uniform level of quality. For some areas the Plans were developed to better compete for scarce resource dollars. For other areas

the Plans do represent long range funding and planning documents. We fully support a park level approach to establishing resource mitigation and preservation priorities. From these Plans can come region wide efforts or systemwide projects. Until this plans are improved or amended the firm basis upon which to build will not exist.

3. Each large unit of the system must have at least one professional Resource Management Specialist on a full time, or for the smaller units, a part time basis at a level within the park management structure high enough to provide the necessary emphasis on resource preservation and maintenance. Current training and career opportunities do not provide the impetus to either assure that qualified assistance is available or will be available in the future.

4. NPS must develop a comprehensive automated resource information system. This will assist the Resource Management Specialist in preparing long range funding priorities, will help the dissemination of information on innovative approaches to resource protection and will assist in defining ways to better use scarce dollars on a region or systemwide problem.

5. Coupled with the increased understanding of resource threats must be an improved science program through which to insure well founded solutions to resource problems.

The present National Park Service science research program was established by administrative order some 50 years ago, and has evolved since in a piecemeal fashion, resulting in information gaps and a lack of continuity, coordination, depth, and long term vision. In their 1963 report on this matter, the National Academy of Sciences stated that "...An examination of natural history research in the National Park Service shows that it has been only incipient, consisting of many reports, numerous recommendations, vacillations in policy, and little action."

These aspects of the Park Service's science program which were criticized by the National Academy in 1963 are still a concern today. These deficiencies reflect the need for broadening the scope of NPS research to include not only issue-specific research for isolated crises in individual parks, but also to include the development of long-term, comprehensive research plans for each park and the incorporation of these plans into an overall plan for the entire NPS research program.

The absence of comprehensive planning for research is an obstacle to obtaining funding, sustaining the science program, establishing a commitment to science among decision-makers, conducting long-term research - particularly baseline studies and monitoring, predicting information needs, and setting research priorities. The key word here is commitment. The Park Service should be committed to conducting the quality and level of research needed to guide natural resources management decisionmaking over the long term and the Congress should encourage such a commitment.

One method of encouraging this commitment would be to establish a statutory mandate for a National Park Service science program. Unlike the Forest Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Congress has never established statutorially that the Park Service should conduct research to provide information for management decision-making and to monitor the long-term implications of management decisions on park resources.

Congressional action in this area would contribute substantially to ensuring the long-term ecological health and integrity of our National Park System, particularly if legislative language specifically, 1) encourages the strengthening of the linkage between Park Service science and resource management planning and decisionmaking, 2) requires the Park Service to establish communication channels to ensure the availability of existing scientific information to resource managers systemwide, 3) encourages ecosystem level studies which recognize the importance of our parks as vignettes of relatively undisturbed natural systems in a nation of utilized landscapes, and 4) acknowledges the vulnerability of these natural systems to degradation from sources external to the park unit but internal to the ecosystem and encourages appropriate research to document the extent and significance of these threats.

6. The NPS Interpretive Program must be made an integral part of the renewed NPS commitment to resources protection. Through these educational efforts the public can better understand and enhance the servicewide efforts. Not every unit can serve every need. This reality must be reflected in the NPS educational efforts in order for individuals to better understand their proper role in the area they may wish to visit and how they must conduct themselves during their visit. This educational effort can serve to create supporters of this approach to park management and can certainly increase the understanding of threatened resources.

In taking an inward look at park resource enhancement we address only one part of the solution. As I have pointed out earlier, many threats to the parks exist from activities which occur outside the area. Better baseline information and an improved science program will assist the Service in identifying the real source of the problem and in documenting the damage but will not provide the solution.

NPCA does not believe that the external threats problem will be resolved by the Department using its existing legislative authorities. The need for comprehensive legislation cannot be overstated. The key element lacking at present is the clear mandate for federal consistency in protecting park resources. The concept is simple, since Congress has mandated that parks be preserved for future generations unimpaired, it seems only logical that such mandate apply to all other federal agencies regardless of their other mission. Examples of statutorially imposed federal consistency are found in a number of other laws already on the books including The Historic Preservation Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, and the Endangered Species Act. If federal actions are required to be consistent with historic resources of state and local significance on the National Register, as is required by the Historic Preservation Act; if federal agency actions are required to be consistent with state coastal zone management plans; as is required by the Coastal Zone Management Act; and if other federal agency actions must be consistent with preserving the habitat of a single endangered species as is required by the Endangered Species Act; then clearly federal consistency is not only desirable but essential if we are to preserve the nationally significant treasures carefully selected and set aside in the National Park System. To oppose federal consistency for the national parks, is to oppose the preservation of these unique resources for future generations.

II.Recreation/Visitor Management

Since World War II, we have witnessed a phenomenal growth in the number of park visitors. Although the number of acres devoted to the National Park System has tripled since the 1930s, visitation has increased tenfold.

Last year parks recorded more than 280 million recreational visits to the 335 units of the park system, Great Smoky Mountains, the most visited park in the system, recorded more than 1 million visits during October (its busiest month) of 1983. And the National Park Service (NPS) estimates that the number of visits to the parks will continue to increase by 3 percent annually.

During July of this year an estimated 42 million visits will be recorded in our national park system. At the end of May, visits to the system were up 12% over this time last year.

Not only are the parks experiencing an explosion in the sheer number of visitors, visitors are pursuing a much wider range of recreational activities. Windshield tours of scenic vistas are no longer enough. Americans want to experience nature. As a result, activities such as camping and river running are undergoing exponential growth.

For instance, prior to 1965 fewer than 600 people floated the Colorado River though the Grand Canyon annually. Within a few years, the number approached 15,000. Today the Grand Canyon would be clogged with boats, if, in 1978, the NPS had not set a ceiling on the annual number of rafters and other boaters permitted on that part of the Colorado.

Advancing technology has also added to the number and variety of recreational activities. In the 1960s, snowmobiles began roaring through the parks; in the 1970s, hang gliders began swooping across park cliff faces; and now fat-tired trail bicycles are whizzing down backcountry trails and "ultralight" aircraft are soaring (barely) overhead.

The popularity of the parks is not without its costs. Burgeoning visitor use has brought with it crowding and resource abuse.

Once narrow backcountry trails have become hiking highways, raft jams are commonplace on many popular park waterways, and on summer weekends scenic park roads resemble city streets during rush hour.

The extent of visitor abuse facing the parks was revealed in 1980 when the NPS issued its premier "State of the Parks" report. According to the report, the fourth most prevalent threat facing the parks was overuse and related problems such as vandalism. Both the loss of resources and the quality of a visitor's experience are being threatened by America's love affair with its national parks.

Not surprisingly, park managers and resource experts are demanding that ceilings on visitor use -- "carrying capacities" -- be established for the parks.

Originally the term carrying capacity defined the number of livestock that pastureland could support. Land managers and recreation experts now use the term to define the level of recreation an area can sustain.

In 1978, Congress amended the NPS General Authorities Act to require that:

"General management plans for each unit shall include, but not be limited to:

> (1) measures for the preservation of the area's resources;
> (2) indications of types and general intensities of development (including visitor circulation and transportation patterns, systems and modes) associated with public enjoyment and use of the area, including general locations, timing of implementation, and anticipated costs;
> (3) identification of and implementation commitments for visitor carrying capacities for all areas of the unit;...."

Despite this mandate, the NPS has only begun to comply. Visitor carrying capacity studies have been conducted on some of the more popular trails and waterways, such as the Colorado River. The National Park Service, however, has not developed a consistent process for evaluating recreational carrying capacities. Contrary to what some park managers hope, recreational carrying capacity cannot be determined by a simple formula or by plugging data into a computer.

When recreation managers first began applying the concept of carrying capacity to visitor use, they mimicked the processes used for livestock management. Recreation activities were measured against the amount of physical space available and the ability of the environment to accommodate these activities.

Since the early 1960s, however, recreational carrying capacity has evolved to include both the effect recreation has on the visitor's experience as well as on the environment.

David Lime and George Stankey, two scientists who have pioneered recreation impact research, define recreational carrying capacity as the amount and type of use an area can sustain over a specific time without impairing the environment or the visitor experience.

Consequently, what constitutes carrying capacity can be highly subjective. Managers need to define not only what resources to preserve, but also what type of visitor experience an area should provide.

In an effort to help the NPS grapple with these kinds of problems, NPCA has been developing a process for analyzing and managing visitor use and its impact. Since the project's inception three years ago, NPCA has received the full support and cooperation of the National Park Service.

NPCA felt it was imperative that the carrying capacity study have a sound scientific basis. Consequently, NPCA contracted with a team of three scientists from the University of Maryland. Technical advice and review throughout the project has been provided by a panel of park and recreation experts including Roger Contor, Don Field, Dennis Galvin and Ro Wauer of the Park Service, John Hendee and Ray Leonard of the Forest Service and Rich Schreyer of Utah State University.

The project has the following two objectives:

(1) to review and synthesize the existing scientific literature dealing with recreational carrying capacity and visitor impacts; and

(2) to apply the resulting understanding to the development of a methodology or framework for management of visitor impacts that is applicable across the variety of units within the national park system.

The first goal underlying this project is to provide a variety of types of information to assist planners and managers with the difficult task of controlling or reducing undesirable visitor impacts. Another goal implicit in the project is to suggest approaches to management that build upon current scientific understanding of the nature and causes of visitor impacts and that do not repeat the mistakes of past management programs.

In the first phase of the project we compiled a bibliography of nearly 2000 studies on recreation impact on soils, vegetation, water, wildlife and visitor experience.

Our review of the scientific literature related to carrying capacity and visitor impacts concluded that there are five major scientific issues that should be incorporated within any visitor impact management program:

1) There is no single predictable response of environments or individuals to increasing recreational use. Instead, an inter-related set of impact indicators can be identified. Some forms of impact are more direct or obvious than others, but any impact parameter or combination of parameters could become the basis for a management strategy or capacity determination. For instance, trail erosion is only one result of heavy trail use. An onslaught of visitors can actually change the composition of plant species alongside the trail. Blackberry bushes and other plants that like disturbed soils can crowd out more indigenous species.

2) The various types of impact indicators are related to the amount of recreation use, although the strength and nature of the relationship varies widely for different parameters. Most impacts do not exhibit a direct linear relationship with user density. Use/impact relationships are influenced by many characteristics of visitor use and a variety of situational factors. Research has shown this dramatically in studies of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. The studies demonstrated that the greatest amount of change to a campsite occurred the very first time it was used. Although continued camping damaged an area, it was the initial use that caused the most harm. Thus, instead of rotating designated campsites from place to place, or adopting a "camp anywhere" policy, managers may decide to stablize campgrounds in fixed locations.

3) One of the most important factors affecting use/impact relationships is the inherent variation in tolerance among environments and user groups. All organisms do not respond in the same way to increasing numbers of visitors. Some species or groups may benefit at the expense of others who are negatively impacted or displaced. Scavenging species, such as ground squirrels, actually may increase with the introduction of campsites whereas people-shy species, such as deer, may avoid the site. As recreation such as snowmobiling increases in a certain area, visitors who desire solitude may go elsewhere for their recreation.

4) Activity-specific influences represent a second major set of considerations affecting use/impact relationships. Some types of recreational activity create impacts faster or to a greater degree than other types of activity. Impacts can vary even within a given activity according to type of transportation or equipment used and visitor characteristics such as party size and behavior. For example, off-road vehicles disturb most plants for more than hikers do.

5) The impacts of recreation are influenced by a variety of site-specific and seasonal variables. That is, given a basic tolerance level to a particular type of recreation, the outcome of increasing use levels may still depend on the time

and place of the human disturbance. Studies have shown that wet soils are more sensitive to use than dry soils. So, a trail that may hold up to heavy use during the summer and autumn may be susceptible to damage in the spring if the area becomes sodden with snowmelt.

These five issues represent important management considerations regardless of the type of impact problem one is dealing with. That is, these considerations apply whether one is focusing on ecological, physical or social impacts.

The second phase of the study has been devoted to the development of a management process based on our conclusions from the literature and on our discussions with our advisory panel and other recreation experts. Moreover, we have visited several parks including Great Smokies, Yosemite, Bandelier and Sequoia to learn what typical visitor impact problems are and how park staffs currently address them.

The proposed management process which we are preparing builds upon previous management frameworks as well as scientific considerations. The proposed process is neither complicated nor technical; its basic approach is to provide a vehicle for the systematic identification of visitor impact problems, the caused of these problems and the potential solutions to the problems.

Our overall intention for the visitor impact management process is that it be structured so that it could be incorporated into the Park Service's general management planning process. It has been designed, though, so that it can be utilized in individual use situations as well.

We are testing the draft management process in Great Smokies and Glacier this summer. It is comprised of nine steps which are designed to respond to the three basic issues inherent to impact management: (1) the identification of problem conditions (or unacceptable visitor impacts); (2) the determination of potential causal factors affecting the occurrence and severity of the unacceptable impacts; and (3) the selection of potential management strategies for ameliorating the unacceptable impacts.

1. Define visitor management area(s): Delineate the physical area(s) of the park to be analyzed. For convenience, these areas could be patterned after the management zones already in place in most national parks. It may be desirable to define visitor management sub-units within existing management zones. Visitor use features such as a backcountry trail may serve as the basis for defining a visitor management area. In other instances, resource characteristics such as an endangered species habitat may be a more appropriate basis.

2. Assess existing data: Compile and review pertinent existing information on the visitor management area(s). The amount of relevant material may vary from situation to situation, but there will always be some background information such as anecdotal ranger reports, visitor complaints, visitor use surveys, resource surveys, etc. Information on

management policies and practices in the area should also be reviewed. The objective of this step is to identify what is already known about the area's resources, management, visitor use patterns, and its significance within the park. A redefinition of the boundaries of the visitor management area may be necessary to ensure management cohesiveness of the area.

3. Review management objectives: Examine existing management objectives for the area and redefine if necessary so that they explicitly state the range of visitor experiences and the condition of the resources to be provided. Management objectives must go beyond such generalities as "protect the resource" and "provide satisfying experiences."

4. Identify indicators: Determine how the specified visitor experience and the resource conditions defined by the objectives will be measured. The specific decision required here is the selection of the most important variables or attributes to serve as indicators of the target experience and resource condition.

5. Set standards for indicators: Determine the appropriate levels or conditions for the indicators. This step, in essence, calls for a restatement of management objectives in quantitative terms. Standards differ from management objectives by specifying appropriate or acceptable limits for the impact indicators defined in step four. This step serves the important function of describing the type of experience and resource condition to be provided in units of measurement which are compatible with available measures of the situation that currently exist.

6. Compare standards and existing conditions: Assess the current conditions for those impact indicators that were selected in step 4 and compare with the standards defined in step 5. This assessment does not necessarily require elaborate and costly studies. What is necessary, however, is a level of observation and measurement that provides for a reasonable comparison of existing conditions and their corresponding standards. If current measures of pertinent indicators are consistent with standards, one needs only to monitor the situation for future changes. If measures for certain indicators do not meet the standards for the area, a problem situation is documented. It is then appropriate to move on to the identification of probable causes of unacceptable impacts.

7. Identify probable causes of impacts: Determine what is the source of the unacceptable impact documented. Because of the many potential factors that may contribute to impact conditions, the challenge of Step 7 is to isolate the true cause(s) of the problem situation. In examining potential causes, it is important to consider the full range of specific aspects of visitor use such as type of use, length of stay, size of groups, etc., as well as the characteristics of the environment such as speciation, climate, topography, etc.

8. Identify management strategies: Evaluate the range of options available to management in resolving an impact situation. It is

important at this phase to focus on the probable causes of the visitor impacts rather than on the impact conditions themselves. Often there are myriad direct and indirect strategies that can be employed. In order to ascertain the potential effectiveness of any strategy, a matrix approach for evaluation of the management alternatives against a set of selection criteria has been developed.

9. Implement strategy and monitor. Select a management strategy and set up a schedule for monitoring its effectiveness.

What we are hoping to accomplish in the pilot tests this summer is to determine the applicability and usefulness of this process. Although the process makes sense on paper, we need to determine if it will be of any value to NPS planners and managers in actual field situations.

Following the pilot studies and any necessary revisions in the process, we will be sending it out for a broad review by scientists, park managers and recreation experts.

Although NPS has, to date, been unable or unwilling to seriously carry out its statutory mandate on carrying capacity, it has taken a number of related actions, and more actions are available and warranted, which can at least delay the day when park gates will be closed to some visitors at certain times. Under the able leadership of the new NPS Director, William Penn Mott, Jr., we have felt renewed confidence that the Service will finally come to grips with the growing problems of visitor impact management.

Several alternatives which the NPS should utilize to postpone the day of reckoning with this problem are:

1. Information and Reservation Systems: availability of comprehensive recreation, food service, lodging, camping, and other information, as well as reservation systems for campgrounds, could help divert visitors to less crowded places, and could help reduce the frustration and antagonism of visitors turned away from overcrowded sites.

2. Visitor Transportation Systems: most "overcrowded" parks have too many cars, rather than too many people. Bus services for visitors have worked in several parks including Denali, Yosemite, and the Grand Canyon; they are needed elsewhere, especially in the peak visitor season. However, opposition from the OMB to the concept, and unwillingness of some concessioners to take on these tasks, has severely limited this option.

3. Promotion of Lesser Known and Lesser Used Parks: Spectacular resources exist in relative obscurity around the System, which, if properly promoted could attract some of those frustrated by crowds in the most popular parks. Canyonlands, Chaco Culture, Chiricahua, Cape Lookout, Voyageurs, and others come to mind in this regard. However, budget cuts have all but eliminated the ability of the Service to produce brochures on this subject, and advertising by the Service is generally frowned upon by the Administration.

4. Spreading use to the "Shoulder" Seasons: Most visitors come to the parks in the summer, and thus create the greatest crowds, when many parks are virtually empty in the spring and fall, as well as winter months. Staffing in the parks adequately to continue interpretive programs in these seasons, as well as advertising their availability could attract frustrated summer park visitors. Unfortunately, severe limitations on NPS personnel ceilings imposed by OMB, including on seasonal hiring, preclude this option at present.

5. Complete Acquisition of Authorized Parks: Completing the fee acquisition of already authorized units of the System will expand park recreation opportunities in many locations. At the New River Gorge National River (WV) essentially no acquisition has occurred 7 years since authorization of the 62,000 acre unit, essentially precluding public hiking, camping or hunting in the area.

6. Establish New Parks: Visitor use can be further spread out if new parks are established, particularly ones with spectacular resources. Tallgrass Prairie and Great Basin parks have been of high priority for decades, and other opportunities exist around the country.

As we gain more and more leisure time, even greater amounts of people will be flocking to the national parks to participate in an ever-growing range of activities. Yet the system itself is not expanding to accommodate this explosion in recreation.

Our parks are becoming green islands amid encroaching development. We must continue to explore new ways of managing park recreation so that the natural and cultural fabric of our heritage will be protected -- and so that the parks will continue to delight the eyes and minds of all visitors.

III. Land Protection for the System

A considerable amount of thought has been given to the issue of land acquisition in the parks over the past five years. Very important and constructive but inconclusive workshops were held in this Subcommittee in 1982. Oversight hearings were held in the House in 1983. And for the past three years, the Park Service has been preparing land protection plans for every park with private land inside its boundaries. Many other activities, including preparation of several related publications, have also taken place.

A great deal has been learned from all of this work and the work that preceded it. In particular, we believe that there are four major topics where much has been learned -- land protection plans, alternatives to fee acquisition, appropriations for land acquisition, and potential additions to the National Park System.

1. Land Protection Plans

The National Park Service has spent an enormous amount of time preparing these plans. One of the reasons for this is that virtually every plan makes a recommendation for each individual privately-owned tract. Each tract is examined to see which alternative ranging from no action to full fee purchase should be recommended. This is the first time that the Park Service has developed plans at this level of detail for lands that remain to be protected within park boundaries.

The land protection plans have examined a wide range of alternative methods to protect land resources and have proposed to rely on many different alternatives. In order to ensure public use and adequate resource protection, full fee acquisition is the most often recommended alternative, as it should be. Wherever possible, land exchanges and donations are recommended to obtain fee ownership. While NPCA has proposed changes to various plans, we believe that in general the Park Service has completed detailed and realistic land protection plans implementation of which we support.

The plans also set priorities for acquisition. Generally, the most important and most threatened lands have the highest priority. After all of the effort that has gone into preparing the plans and setting the priorities, it is very important that the plans and priorities be adhered to. While the plans can be amended where necessary, there is no need to prepare a new set of plans. The existing plans should be followed and, in doing so, the Park Service will be able to continue to preserve park resources.

2. Alternatives to Fee Acquisition with Appropriated Funds

The land protection plans, as we have already discussed, recommend different alternative ways of protecting land other than full fee acquisition with appropriated funds.

While greater emphasis can be placed on the use of alternative land protection measures on adjacent lands, the limitations of alternative strategies both within and without park boundaries must be clearly understood. Zoning, for example, only offers limited protection since it neither provides for permanent public access nor is it perpetual in nature. It can be easily changed by those who enact the ordinances. Easements can adequately protect resources if they are drafted correctly, monitored, and enforced. But it should be understood that the cost effectiveness of easements over a long-term period may fall short of that achieved through direct fee purchase particularly when the limitations on public access associated with most easements are considered.

Exchanges and interagency transfers have had limited use in the past due to the resistance of the respective land "holding agencies" to cooperate among themselves. However, with more direct support from the Secretary's office, exchanges and transfers involving other agencies would succeed more often. Congress should also examine the utility of removing interstate exchange and transfer restrictions in legislation authorizing their use.

Even with these limitations, alternatives can be used more extensively. One area where they hold a great deal of promise is in greenline parks. These are relatively large areas that primarily remain in private ownership with continuation of important existing economic activities such as agriculture and tourism. Both the Adirondack Park in New York and the Pinelands National Reserve in New Jersey are greenline parks. The purpose of the greenline park is to preserve the existing area with as little fee acquisition as possible. Instead, reliance is placed on zoning, easements and other alternatives so that the natural and cultural values of the area are protected while allowing development to occur in that part of the area that can best withstand it.

In 1981, we completed a study which identified twenty-seven areas that could be protected as greenline parks. Undoubtedly, there are many other areas that could benefit from this approach. In 1984, we published Greenline Parks: Land Conservation Trends for the Eighties and Beyond that explored the greenline approach in more detail. We believe that many areas could be better preserved at minimal governmental expense if the greenline approach was used more extensively and recommend that all levels of government become more involved in identifying, advocating and establishing greenline parks.

3. Appropriations for Land Acquisition

In 1981, there was a considerable amount of discussion and disagreement about the FY 1982 appropriations for land acquisition. Congress decided at that time to provide $93 million for Park Service land acquisition. This amount was increased by $30 million in a supplemental appropriation bill for FY 1982 that passed in 1982. Since FY 1982, there has been less disagreement in Congress about appropriate funding levels and on average for Fiscal Years 1982-85, Congress has provided $100 million annually for the National Park Service out of $255 million annually from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

These funding levels are substantially lower than those provided in the four previous fiscal years. Nevertheless, progress has been made in protecting park resources. Important acquisitions have been made at a number of parks.

A serious problem concerning the obligation of funds has existed during the past four years. Oversight hearings in the House of Representatives looked into this problem in detail. Individuals, some of whom had real economic hardships, wanted to sell to the Park Service but were unable to do so because of the extremely slow rate of obligation. Fortunately, the backlog of hardship cases has been reduced, but the obligation rate is still low. Now that the land protection plans ordered by the Administration are essentially completed, there is little or no excuse for the obligation rate being so low. Indications are that again this fiscal year, the NPS obligation rate will barely reach 50%. If the only reason for Administration opposition to land acquisition appropriation is concern for the deficit, and if the Congress has taken this concern into account in developing the annual appropriation level for the LWCF, we see no good reason why Interior cannot obligate virtually all of the already appropriated funds.

We realize that the Park Service's ability to obligate funds has been somewhat limited in the last two fiscal years by Congressional requirements for oversight and approval of certain acquisitions. Perhaps changes could be made in these requirements that would reduce the delays in obligation but still fulfill the needs of Congress.

Continued progress can and should be made in providing funds to acquire lands identified in the land protection plans. Congress, based on its action of the past four years, has decided that acquisition should continue and that a land acquisition moratorium as proposed by the Administration should not be instituted. While we believe that substantially more funds are needed, progress can still be made at the funding levels of the past four years.

Among several "new" ideas for better financing the needed acquisitions for the national parks, is the much discussed proposal to modify the existing Land and Water Conservation Fund into a "Trust" Fund, in which OCS leasing receipts are invested up front, and annual acquisitions funded off of earned interests. Yet another idea would be modeled after the private mortgage financing recently proposed by the U.S. Army for funding construction of a new base. Essentially, an annual cap on private mortgages for parkland acquisition could be set, at say $200 million, whereupon the Service could proceed with already authorized purchases, and the Congress, in the appropriations bills would fund the mortgage payments at a constant level. This approach could eliminate the uncertainty over annual funding levels; could avoid the problem of the Service's inability to respond to hardship or opportunity purchases; could stabilize the current fluctuations in staffing needs for acquisitions; and could complete needed purchases on a more timely basis.

4. New Areas

Only one new area has been added to the National Park System since 1981. A truly creative and expanded land protection initiative must include the protection of qualified new areas as well as reinstituting the new area study process. While this does not necessitate a return to a study program of the size existing in the late 1970s, the Park Service does need to have a new area study team preparing studies of several potential new areas. If the Park Service has its own new area study program, it can better resist attempts to include unqualified areas in the System. The theme study approach, relied on in earlier years, should be reinstituted.

There are many areas that potentially qualify for inclusion in the System including a Tallgrass Prairie area in Oklahoma and a Great Basin area in Nevada. There is an enormous amount of support in Oklahoma for a Tallgrass Prairie unit. Only a relatively small percentage of the original tallgrass prairie still remains unplowed, uncultivated, and undeveloped.

With the active support of the current landowners, an opportunity now exists to protect an important part of the remaining prairie. We expect that legislation to establish a Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve will be introduced in 1985.

A Great Basin unit in Nevada of some 100,000 acres could be established primarily, if not exclusively, out of lands already administered by the Forest Service. This park would be designed to interpret the Great Basin history, biology and geology that actually extends over a 200,000 square mile area in six states. It included many nationally significant features including Wheeler Peak and a beautiful grove of ancient (5,000 years old) bristlecone pines. Proposals to establish a Great Basin National Park have existed for over 60 years. We believe it is now time to add this remarkable area to the National Park System.

In the past, the National Natural Landmark Program was a major step in identifying lands appropriate for authorization as new units of the National Park System. This program has been virtually abandoned and should be revitalized. Natural Landmarks represent nationally significant geological and ecological resources. Designation does not entail a land withdrawal. Consequently, protection of landmark areas is largely dependent upon cooperation with landowners.

The National Natural Landmarks Program, in general, has suffered from a lack of understanding of its purpose and from inattention within the Park Service. The program's potential in the area of land protection has not been fully explored. Any revitalization of a new area studies program should recognize the role of the landmarks in selecting lands for new parks. Support should also emphasize the cooperative aspects of the program, the potential for refining the "greenline park" concept; the role of the program in compiling a comprehensive natural heritage resource information base; the potential to use this information base extensively in land protection decision-making; and the potential for landmarks contiguous to national parks to help protect park resources from adjacent land use problems.

Finally, while the national park system has remained constant for several years, allowing a much needed "catch-up" period, and while we do not either expect or advocate a return to the rapid growth of the system as occurred in the 1970s, there are a number of important gaps in the system's goal of comprehensive representation yet to be filled, which should occur on a gradual, opportunity-motivated basis. We firmly believe that in the long run, the Nation will benefit from a policy which recognizes the need for appropriate growth of the units representing our heritage of natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

IV. Conclusion

Clearly, the 334 units of the National Park System are facing a wide range of problems. The causes of these problems are equally wide-ranging and involve inadequate funding, misplaced budget priorities, overcrowding in some parks and some times, too few personnel, incompatible development outside park boundaries, and more. All of these problems seriously threaten the state of the National Park System. In the past few years, beginning with the publication of the State of the Parks Report in 1980, there has been a much greater awareness of the problems and their causes. To date, however, there has been too little done to mitigate and eliminate these problems. The challenge of the next few years will be to make a concerted effort to resolve as many of these problems as possible.

In addition to dealing on a case-by-case basis with the various specific problems arising day-to-day, the Service and the System would greatly benefit from a long range plan to guide their efforts for the future.

In September, 1981, NPCA convened a national conference on the State of the National Parks. During this conference, NPCA issued a challenge to the National Park Service, urging the development of a comprehensive National Park System Plan. NPCA presented the outline of a comprehensive proposal to the NPS which built a strong case for the urgent need for such a plan. Significantly, for the 112 year history of the national parks, no such comprehensive long-range plan has ever been done by the Service or by any other entity.

A "Comprehensive National Park System Plan" would include these elements:

1. Identification of the gaps in the System, and a process for identifying appropriate sites to fill the gaps.

2. A review of all current boundaries of existing units of the System to determine their adequacy, and specific recommendations as to needed improvements.

3. A process to identify, evaluate, and prevent/mitigate threats to the natural and cultural resources of the units of the System.

4. A prioritized program for the completion of general management plans for all units of the System.

5. A systematic and prioritized evaluation of the scientific research program and needs of the Service.

6. Systematic evaluation of the land acquisition needs of the System, with priority placed on both resource threats and hardship conditions.

7. Evaluation of the staff needs of the Service, both in terms of the number, type of training, and distribution among central and field offices of employees. Attention should be paid to permanent, seasonal, volunteer, and youth employment programs.

8. Evaluation of the current and projected levels, methods, and types of use of park resources, including such factors as overuse, accessibility, internal transportation, carrying capacity, and inappropriate recreational activities.

9. Review of the NPS interpretation program, with a specific emphasis on the need to improve and upgrade the role of interpretation in parks, and to expand the NPS outreach through environmental education activities.

Two months ago, NPCA began the preparation of such a National Park System Plan. By fall of 1986 we will have completed our work and will present our recommendations to the NPS and the public. In the meantime, we are greatly encouraged by the recognition of this need which Director Mott has already demonstrated in his 12 Point Plan, and in his many public statements on the matter. We look forward to working closely with the Director and others in the Service as this Plan evolves.

Working together, concerned citizens, the professionals in and out of government, and our Nation's leaders in the Congress can act to alleviate the problems facing the national park system as we proceed into the 21st Century. We hope and trust that this spirit of cooperation will be found, and that the System which we pass on to future generations will be even better than it is today.

Mr. Chairman, we again wish to express our appreciations for your calling this hearing, and would welcome any questions.

Appendix

SELECTED MAJOR THREATS TO THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

Air Pollution

Air pollution in the national parks is a serious and growing problem. Oxides of sulfur and nitrogen are causing acid rain and visibility degradation. Ozone is causing physical damage to plants and trees.

Acid rain is falling throughout the national parks in the East. Last summer an acid fog moved through Acadia National Park (ME) which had a pH of 2.9. Gettysburg National Military Park (PA) estimates that it will cost $2 million to repair the acid rain caused damage to the monuments there.

Ozone pollution is causing damage to plants and trees at levels below the secondary ambient standards which are designed to protect plant and animal life. Yellowing of needles, spots on leaves and a severe decline in the health of yellow pine and red spruce is evident in many parks..

Visibility degradation is evident in many areas of the System both in the east and west. The Grand Canyon National Park (AZ) experiences at least 100 days a year when visibility is seriously degraded. When Shenandoah National Park (VA) was authorized in 1926 the Washington Monument could be seen on a clear day from one point in the park. Today, it is often difficult of see from one ridge to the other.

Geothermal Development Adjacent to Parks

While geothermal leasing is prohibited inside park system units, many parks with geothermal features have underground heat sources which can be tapped from adjacent lands or inholdings and which can threaten the delicate thermal features which make these parks unique. Geysers, hot springs, mud pots, etc. could all be destroyed. Parks threatened by geothermal development include Yellowstone National Park (WY), Crater Lake National Park (OR), Lassen Volcanic National Park (CA), Hawaii Volcanoes National Park (HI).

Poaching Threats

Poaching is a severe threat to many NPS units. Plants, animals, and archeological/historic artifacts are poached illegally, usually for great monetary profits. Native desert plants and succulents, sometimes rare, are pilfered for hot houses and private gardens throughout the country. The very endangered grizzly bear is poached for its valuable claws and hide. No less critical is the rampant removal of significant archaeological and historical artifacts. Often poaching borders on vandalism and management plans are just now starting to focus on the problems of regulation and enforcement. Parks threatened by poaching include Big Bend National Park (TX), Denali National Park (AK), Chaco Culture National Historical Park (NM), Bandelier National Monument (NM), Glacier National Park (MT), and Custer National Battlefield (MT).

Urban Encroachment

Urban encroachment is a pervasive problem at all types of NPS units in all parts of the country. The problems range from subdivision of land within the park's boundaries to the development on private lands outside the boundaries which can severely impact the historic scene at historical parks. Urban encroachment is taking place at Santa Monica Mountains NRA (CA), Chattahooche River NRA (GA), Gettysburg (PA), and Richmond Battlefield (VA).

Off Road Vehicles

Off road vehicles have been a major problem primarily on the beaches of national seashores along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Scientific studies have shown that even minimal use can harm park resources. Off road vehicles are a problem at Cape Cod National Seashore (MA) and Fire Island National Seashore (NY).

Hydrocarbon Development

The Overthrust Belt, a region rich with oil and gas, extends from Colorado and Utah, north through western Wyoming and Montana into Canada. While activity in the Overthrust has slowed since the boom days of the late 1970s, it is expected that a turnaround in the world oil market will result in intensified exploration and development in the region. Activity is ongoing on National Forest lands surrounding Yellowstone (WY) and Glacier National Parks (MT) and these lands are virtually blanketed with leases yet to be explored and evaluated. The threat posed by existing and potential oil and gas development is primarily associated with direct and indirect disturbance of park wildlife including threatened species. A complex hydrocarbon known as tar sand exists in 11 areas of Utah, 2 of which are contiguous to Canyonlands and Capitol Reef National Parks. Drilling and extraction of tar sands will have tremendous adverse impacts on these parks, including air pollution, visual and noise problems.

Wildlife Management

Many species of wildlife are threatened or endangered in national parks. For instance, only 600-800 grizzly bears currently exist in the lower 48 states. Their populations are located primarily in Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks, the northern Rockies of Idaho, and part of northeastern Washington. Their habitat is shrinking and competition for backcountry space with man is on the increase. Management must address the problem of keeping humans out of critical grizzly habitat and grizzlies out of people-oriented spaces. Regulations and strict enforcement must be instituted to stop illegal killing of grizzly bears. Other critical wildlife issues in national parks include problems facing the Florida panther in Everglades National Park; elk and bison in Yellowstone; mountain lions in Guadalupe Mtns and Carlsbad Caverns.

EXAMPLES OF SERIOUS THREATS TO SPECIFIC PARKS

Big Bend National Park - Texas

One of the most serious threats is poaching of cactus and other desert plants which are sold to nurseries and plant stores. Pollution, including organic waste and pesticides, crosses international boundaries and causes additional problems. Adjacent development of ranchettes of 10 to 40 acres is also a threat, to both scenic vistas and wildlife habitat.

Dinosaur National Monument - Colorado/Utah

Mining, energy production, development and sewage are all problems facing Dinosaur NM. Water quantity issues are becoming more serious. The federal government has been denied minimum instream flows on the Yampa River within Dinosaur NM by a recent Colorado District Court decision. This could possibly lead the way for dam construction and development. Proposed is the Juniper Dam project, located some 20 miles upstream, sponsored by the Colorado River Water Conservation District. Nearby chemical spraying to control crickets is harming endangered peregrine falcons in the Monument.

Canyonlands National Park - Utah

Two sites next to Canyonlands National Park are among several understudy by the Department of Energy as candidates for our nation's first high-level nuclear waste dump. Although not selected among the top three sites for "site characterization" in the draft proposal, DOE declared both Davis Canyon and Lavender Canyon as "suitable" for a nuclear dump. DOE ranked Davis Canyon #4, and still may elevate it before finalizing its selection this fall. Canyonlands also faces air quality and water flow problems and may be seriously harmed by potential excessive road building inside the park's boundaries in the future, and proposed tar sand drilling.

Acadia National Park - Maine

Acid rain is the major problem affecting this park. Damage to fish and trees is already evident. Residential development on private land is also a serious problem as is inorganic waste from an adjacent solid waste landfill.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park - Tennessee

Increasingly, this park is threatened by air pollution. Acid rain and ozone pollution are the two primary problems. The park also has a serious problem caused by exotic European boars that continue to destroy the park's vegetation and wildlife.

Virgin Islands National Park

The one-third of the island still in private ownership is under constant development pressure. Each time the fragile island ecosystem is disturbed the consequences go beyond damage to a pristine tropical setting. Soil runoff has seriously degraded fish habitat and has retarded the ability of coral to thrive in the islands' shallow waters. Overcrowding by visitors is also taking its toll on the park's resources, especially the delicate coral reefs.

Mammoth Cave National Park - Kentucky

Like many other parks, Mammoth Cave is threatened by adjacent land development and urban encroachment. Natural water flows are also harmed by unnecessary dams and locks on the Green River at the park's boundary backing water upstream into the park and flooding cave passages. The most serious problem, however, involves the underground waterways coursing through Mammoth and Flint Ridge cave systems that are being seriously polluted by sewage runoff from the communities surrounding the park.

Glacier National Park - Montana

Glacier National Parks is considered by many to be one of the two most threatened parks in the country. Highway development, logging and industry near the park pose serious problems. The proposed coal mine at Cabin Creek is the most significant long-term concern because the air and water pollution problems it would create for neighboring Glacier National Park. The mine site is located in British Columbia within sight of Glacier, six miles across the North Fork River Valley. The project is proposed to contain twin open pits more than one mile across and 1000 feet deep, with surrounding slag heaps of about 2 billion tons of waste rock.

Denali National Park - Alaska

While Denali faces a variety of problems, including air pollution, inorganic waste and acid mine drainage, perhaps the most serious future problem is substantially increased mining. The Alaska Land Use Council, a joint body of State and federal representatives has recently recommended that a 200,000 acre area of Denali NP, known as the Kantishna Hills, be opened to perpetual mineral leasing. Although this action would require an act of Congress, and will be quite controversial, mining is proceeding at present on numerous pre-existing mining claims inside this area of the park. The best solution would be for the NPS to be permitted to determine the validity of existing claims, throw out the invalid ones, and buy the others, thus eliminating mining from the park.

Merced River (Yosemite) Protection

The Merced River system which originates high in Yosemite National Park's backcountry is threatened by hydro-electric development just downstream of the Park boundary. Both the Main Fork which flows through Yosemite Valley, past the Arch Rock entrance station and through the park administrative site at El Portal, and the South Fork which flows along the southern boundary of the Park, through Wawona and then through Forest Service land to its confluence with the Main Fork, are so threatened. The result would be loss of scenic, cultural and recreational values in critical stretches of the river system and loss of winter habitat for Yosemite's deer, bear and mountain lion population. Support is building both locally and in Washington for designation of both forks as Wild and Scenic Rivers which would prohibit hydro development.

Everglades National Park - Florida

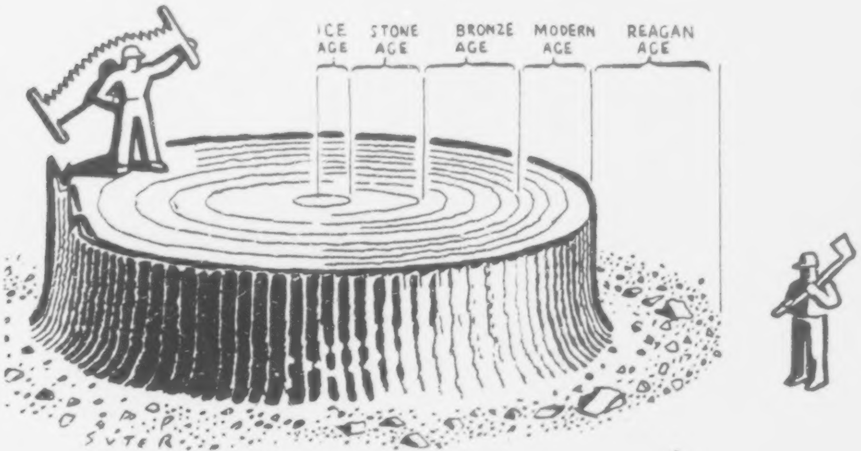
The Everglades ecological system, which contains Everglades National Park and Big Cypress National Preserve, is totally dependent on the natural wet and dry water cycles caused by runoff from most of the southern half of the Florida peninsula. These water cycles have been significantly modified over the years by water supply, flood control, and land drainage projects. This modification of the natural quantity, quality, rate and timing, of flows into the Everglades has also resulted in significant habitat loss for many species of fish and wildlife.

Richmond National Battlefield Park - Virginia

Like so many of the battlefields in the National Park System, urban encroachments are destroying the integrity of the park. Its historic scene and its resources are being impacted or destroyed by adjacent land development. The managers of the Richmond NBP are constantly on guard against rezoning requests of the county board of supervisors to upgrade zoning to high density development near units of the battlefield. The park fought attempts last year to allow rezoning of adjacent lands at one of the park's ten units and they are currently fighting another attempt to upgrade zoning where visual impacts and severe runoff could ruin the Beaver Creek Dam unit.

The use of the open space at most of the battlefields in the System by those seeking recreational sites is a perennial problem that can only be cured by an interpretive program that stresses the commemorative purpose of the battlefields.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1985



'Bye, National Parks

By John B. Oakes

The national parks are as sacred to most Americans as the flag, motherhood and apple pie, but unlike those other symbols of our national psyche, the National Park System is in imminent danger.

The parks have long staggered under the double burden of overcrowding and under-funding. This summer, there will be more than 300 million visits to the parks. The current Reagan budget proposals would cut 33 percent from the already grossly inadequate levels of last year.

Surpassing these dangers, however, is an increasing threat to the integrity of the parks — even to their existence. This threat comes from the fierce pressure of exploitative interests within the parks or, frequently, at their very borders. It is pressure from real estate speculators; oil and gas explorers; tar sand and geothermal energy developers; unrestrained air polluters; road and airport and tourist-resort builders; grazers, ranchers, hunters and poachers; gas station, souvenir shop and pizza parlor owners. They're all out to make a buck (or several million) at the expense of the parks.

Here are some examples:

- Yellowstone (Wyoming): World-famous geysers and hot springs may be wiped out by prospective geothermal development along northern and western boundaries; threat to habitat of critically endangered species, especially the grizzly bear, from oil and gas exploration at park edge.
- Grand Canyon (Arizona): Heavy air pollution at least 100 days a year caused by uncontrolled emissions from smelters and power plants; intensive overflights by planes and helicopters, and motorized river traffic, shattering the majestic silence of one of the world's most awesome spectacles.
- Glacier (Montana): Habitat critical to grizzly and elk populations jeopardized by a permit allowing American Petrofina to drill a huge exploratory well just south of park; proposed road-building, mining operations and logging on borderlands.
- Acadia (Maine): Acid rain already at dangerous levels, with no controls in sight.

A plea to stop the despoilers

- Cape Cod (Massachusetts) and Big Cypress (Florida): Off-road and all-terrain vehicles destroying fragile dune resources and disrupting critical habitat for endangered species.
- Dinosaur (Utah-Colorado), Zion (Utah) and Yosemite (California): Projected dams outside these parks certain to destroy quality of living rivers in each of them, robbing parks of irreplaceable natural asset.
- Santa Monica Mountains (California) and Chattahooche (Georgia): Subdivision development proceeding on private lands within authorized park boundaries.
- Denali (Alaska): Fouling of water and degradation of land from mining inside park; mining claims being sold within park for resort development.
- Canyonlands (Utah): Projected high-level nuclear waste dump site immediately adjacent to this unique scenic wonderland.
- Big Bend (Texas): Illegal poaching, at huge profits, of rare native desert plants.
- Capitol Reef (Utah): Totally unnecessary multimillion dollar paved road (to replace adequate dirt road) proposed to cut across 56-mile stretch of unique wild scenic area; water contamination, soil erosion and habitat destruction from continued overgrazing (also in several other parks).
- Chaco Canyon (New Mexico) and Custer Battlefield (Montana): Large-scale pilfering of valuable cultural, archeological and historical artifacts (also in other parks).
- Everglades (Florida): Water, flood control and drainage projects near park boundaries, resulting in loss of 90 percent of park's wading bird population.

This is but a tiny sampling of what is happening and is about to happen to our national parks. The despoilers and exploiters and developers are moving fast. The only way to stop them is to support those members of Congress (like Senator Chafee, Republican of Rhode Island, and Representative Seiberling, Democrat of Ohio, to name but two) and private organizations (like the National Parks and Conservation Association, and the Wilderness Society, among others) in their unremitting efforts to protect the parks from those who would destroy them. ☐

John B. Oakes is the former Senior Editor of The New York Times.

THURSDAY, JULY 11, 1985 THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

OPINION

America's crown jewels are losing their sparkle

By Bruce F. Vento

IT'S summer now and millions of Americans are anxiously making their plans to get out of the cities and enjoy our national parks. Americans can proudly boast of having the best park system in the world. The parks preserve for all time the great natural wonders, and the great buildings, monuments, and battlefields which played such vital parts in our rich history.

But the places we have set aside to be enjoyed forever are in great danger. A family who drives for days to reach the rim of the Grand Canyon now may excitedly jump from their car only to stare into a smog bank. A hiker seeking a quiet escape by strolling through the forest of Great Smoky Mountains Park may now encounter a grove of dead and dying red spruce trees. A visitor trying to understand the momentous battle at Gettysburg may have trouble reading and understanding the crumbling and corroding stone and bronze monuments and statues.

Our park system is being victimized by dirty air. Today, air pollution is an urban problem which city dwellers cannot necessarily escape by visiting the parks. The House Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation recently finished two days of hearings on park air quality, listening to dozens of witnesses, including scientists and superintendents of national parks in nearly every region of the country. What we heard is alarming.

> **The places set aside to be enjoyed forever are in great danger. A family who drives for days to reach the rim of the Grand Canyon now may excitedly jump from their car only to stare into a smog bank.**

Air pollution does not respect park boundaries. It floats over the canyonlands of the Southwest, and it obscures the views from the top of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Shenandoah National Park. It clouds the view of El Capitan in Yosemite, and it shortens the vast distances once visible from the top of Bryce Canyon in Utah.

Air pollution is much more than a visibility problem. Among the gases and minute particles floating along in the dirty air are some real killers. Ozone, a product of nitrous oxide, occurs naturally in small amounts. But the amounts floating into our parks are so abnormally high, because of pollution, that trees are dying.

From coast to coast, park superintendents and scientists told us trees are turning yellow, tops are thinning, and growth rates are declining. In California's Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park, the giant sequoias and ponderosa pines are showing significant ozone damage. On the Maine coast, scientists are noting the same damage to Eastern white pine trees. Similar problems are reported at dozens of parks in between. The superintendents of Great Smoky Mountains in the Southeast showed us a cross section of a pine tree which clearly showed shrinking growth rings, the same characteristic noted in Germany's Black Forest trees just a few years ago which led to the dying Black Forest phenomenon today.

The list of effects does not end with smoggy vistas and damaged trees. When rainfall absorbs the gases and tiny solid particles in the air, it falls to earth as acid rain. Scientists are finding that even the highest, most remote areas of our parks, such as the high alpine lakes and streams in the Rocky Mountains are vulnerable to acid rain. In fact, because of the soil conditions, the high altitude lakes may be the most vulnerable, because these environments have little ability to neutralize the acidity in the rainfall.

Acid rain threatens to turn our seemingly unpolluted remote waters into places where fish cannot reproduce. If you are a fly fisherman dreaming of a chance to fish Yellowstone's blue ribbon trout streams, today's dream may well be tomorrow's nightmare.

Air pollution damages do not end with the trees and lakes. Our manmade environment is jeopardized too. A representative of the American Institute of Architects told us acid rain is steadily deteriorating our "Built" environment. From pre-Columbian Indian cliff dwellings of the Southwest to the metal statues of Gettysburg, to the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor, air pollution is pitting, flaking, and corroding away our great historic treasures.

It is the job of the National Park Service to preserve and protect these parks which often are described as our country's "Crown Jewels." But the park ranger's work is on the ground, in the park. The problem begins out of the park, often hundreds or even thousands of miles away, in the form of emissions from cars, factories, smelters, or power plants. The Clean Air Act sets the standards for emissions. Anyone who goes to a national park to seek refuge from the pollution of the cities only to find more of the same, has to ask, "Is the Clean Air Act living up to its name?"

Scientists in the parks told us they are noticing the decline, and sometimes the total disappearance, of lichens from park ecosystems.

These tiny, delicate, primitive plants which cling to rocks and trees are especially susceptible to acid rain. Scientists tell us lichens are a good indicator species – a canary-in-the-mine which can warn of greater dangers for other species. That analogy can be carried a step further. Our national parks are set aside to be preserved in their natural state for all time. They are to the United States as the proverbial canary is to the miner.

If we are beginning to see danger signs inside the parks, then how good a job of controlling air pollution are we doing elsewhere?

United States Rep. Bruce F. Vento (D) of Minnesota is chairman of the House Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you, Mr. Pritchard
Mr. Maughan.

STATEMENT OF REX MAUGHAN, CHAIRMAN, CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL PARK CONCESSIONERS, ACCOMPANIED BY ALAN HOWELL, WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. MAUGHAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee that were here. I appreciate this opportunity. I have with me our Washington representative, Alan Howell. We appreciate the opportunity to submit our statement in full, and I'd just like to summarize and say that in representing the 530 concessionaires in our national parks in which we have been involved since 1915, that we feel like we're an integral part of the preservation of our natural resource which we are very concerned with, as everyone is.

I would like to compliment the Conservation Foundation on their booklet. I think that it gives us all something to think about. There's some very good things there to work toward, and I think that it'll be a great stepping stone for the future.

I'd like to just submit that, as we analyze our parks and concessions, we need to remember that the public demand is always for the best rooms or the nicest restaurants, and that as we look at parks like Yellowstone, where we're only using less than 3 percent of the land in that park; 95 percent of the people are using that 3 percent, and the other 5 percent are using the 97 percent that is in the remote areas.

I think that as we analyze concessions also, that we should realize that because of the remoteness, the seasonality, the Government restraints to the Park Service as to length of season and pricing and everything that's a limitation there, that the profits of concession are less than 8½ percent, which is far below national averages. And many, many of them fight every year to even break even. They're there because their families were there and they love the parks. And I think that as people become more acquainted with concessioners, they'll find that to be true.

As I have had an opportunity this year to visit national parks in Australia, Malaysia, and Japan, I want this committee to know that I'm proud to be an American; I'm proud to be associated with our national parks; they're great. We have very dedicated people administrating them, and that we as concession are dedicated and have goals of better quality facilities, better services, so that the visiting public has a better experience there, and that they have a spiritual renewal.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Maughan follows:]

UNITED STATES SENATE
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC LANDS, RESERVED WATER AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION

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STATEMENT OF
REX MAUGHAN, CHAIRMAN
CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL PARK CONCESSIONERS

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OVERSIGHT HEARINGS ON
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
JULY 18, 1985

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE:

I am Rex Maughan, Chairman of the Conference of National Park Concessioners, and I want to first express appreciation for this opportunity to appear before you and present some of my thoughts and those of our organization on the various subjects before your subcommittee regarding the National Park Service. As most of you know, the Conference of National Park Concessioners is an association of most of the major concessioners serving the public in units of the National Park System, as well as many of the smaller operators. The members of our organization have enjoyed close cooperation with the National Park Service and the committees and Members of Congress over the years in working continuously to serve the major objectives for the creation of the various units of the National Park System.

At the outset I want to emphasize that there are few organizations that could match the Conference of National Park Concessioners in their support for protecting the invaluable resources of our National Parks, the integrity of those units, and the right of the public to visit and enjoy the beauty, history and spirit of them. Because the basic work of the concessioners is to serve the needs of the visiting public, one might cynically say that the business motive moved the concessioners in their concern and defense of the National Parks. But for many individuals, families and companies it goes far beyond a business investment, since it represents in many cases a dedication of time and labor over many years, even lifetime or generation spans. In some park units the conservation concerns of the concessioner predate or exceed the announced concerns of the National Park Service and conservation groups. I take time here to make this point as I commence this statement because we believe that the most productive approach to improved operations of the National Park System is not a selfish one where each group speaks only for that concern which is dearest to its heart, but rather an approach where the National Park Service, the concessioners, conservationist groups, and the public all speak together, with equal emphasis, for the protection of the natural resource involved and the balanced use and enjoyment of that resource by the public for which that resource is being protected.

The Twelve Point Plan

The Conference of National Park Concessioners welcomes William Penn Mott as the 12th Director of the National Park Service and pledges to him our full cooperation in working to improve the National Park System. From the beginning of his tenure, it has been clear that he brings a vigorous, enthusiastic approach which we commend. After several months without a permanent Director, the National Park Service needed leadership and commitment toward building the future. Our organization has participated with him in meetings and plans for implementing needed improvements.

The twelve points announced by Director Mott in June are now being refined by assignments of NPS Regional Directors. After a more complete recommendation has been formulated on each point, we feel that it would be appropriate that public hearings, or at least a public comment period, be designated so that input from many groups and citizens can be received. The Conference of National Park Concessioners stands ready to meet with the Director or his designees at any time to add our experience, background and knowledge to the initial work of his NPS team. I'm sure that other groups and individuals feel likewise.

The subject matter of the Director's twelve points, while all addressing improved conditions in the National Park Service, break down into three categories - first, internal management and planning within the National Park Service; second, improved relationships with the public; and third, improved relationships with concessioners serving the visitors. We commend the Director for focusing on all these subjects in this manner because they are all somewhat interrelated and should be part of a comprehensive action program. I will direct a few comments at the first and second categories, but place most of my emphasis on the third category related to concessioners.

With reference to the need for strengthening internal management and planning within the National Park Service, it is our feeling that during the tenure of Russ Dickenson as Director much was accomplished in this area, but there remains much more that can be done. A marked change in the leadership of NPS occurred under Director Dickenson, with the strong backing of former Secretaries of Interior Watt and Clark. This has continued under the leadership of Secretary Hodel and has brought about much more open communication and solving problems by mutual discussion and action, rather than bitter confrontation leading nowhere.

Despite some continual problem areas, we feel that the general health of the National Parks is good and that it is improving. The influx of funds through the Visitors' Facilities fund has provided a way to accomplish needed improvements in many physical facilities. We commend the Administration for focusing on this need and devising a straightforward manner of dealing with it. The visiting public is the real winner in this approach because many visitor facilities have been rehabilitated to make their visits more enjoyable, comfortable and safe through this program.

While there are some exceptions for a few places in a few parks at some specific times of each year, generally speaking the National Parks are not overcrowded or overused. Visitation is down somewhat from its peak in the 1980's. With some additional flexibility at those times of temporary strain by both the National Park Service and the concessioners, the present public use of the parks can be accommodated, without danger to the resource. We feel that there is no present need for visitor limitations and that such a step would seriously alter the concept of allowing the public use and enjoyment of these specially designated areas. Any contemplated limitations should be thoroughly discussed, not only within the National Park Service, but with concessioners, user groups, and others including the general public, before any limitations are posted.

The Conference of National Park Concessioners supports the Administration and the Congress in their mutual desire to reduce the serious budget deficit. It is obvious that unnecessary expenditures must be curbed and that some new revenue must probably be found. Much has been aired recently about entrance fees to units of the National Park System as a source for additional revenue. We support the effort to examine those fees and make needed adjustments but we oppose any thought that this method should be regarded as any substantial new revenue source. Obviously, some fee can be justified but that amount should be tempered by the public policy that the units of the National Park System should be as open and available to as many people as possible, regardless of their financial means to pay higher fees.

With reference to those points in Director Mott's 12-point plan calling for improved relationships with the public, we support this effort and believe that it is both very important and timely. With the future years in the federal government establishment likely to continue in a very tight fiscal position, an interested and aroused public may be the only way that the Administration and the Congress can be reminded forcefully that National Parks must continue as a vital part of the fabric of American culture and life and that its budget must be sustained at a reasonable level.

Now turning to the areas of Director Mott's 12-point plan dealing with concessioners, we are pleased to state that the relationship of the National Park Service personnel and the concessioners is generally very good. As I commented earlier, this relationship has improved greatly in the last several years and we pledge our cooperation to make it better in the year ahead. In the letter which Director Mott sent to the employees of the National Park Service dated May 29, 1985 he wrote: "I also expect to build a team-working relationship with concessioners and to establish a cooperative and creative relationship with the Administration, the Congress and the public.".

We commend the Director for that statement and the spirit behind it. We have always felt that concessioners should be an integral part of the team but one can't be if the coach doesn't regard you as a player. Unfortunately, on some occasions certain NPS personnel have felt it better to plan and strategize in private and then announce policies and plans affecting the concessioner in total surprise. While this action may reinforce one's ego as having some momentary authority, it is bad management policy and is repugnant to the announced policy of Director Mott of building a "team-working relationship with concessioners".

Point No. 11 in Director Mott's plan calls for developing that team relationship and we strongly feel that the basis for that approach is already laid out in Public Law 89-249, the National Park Concessions Policy Act. This statute codified the practices of many years in dealing with visitor services and the role of concessioners. The National Park Service, Congress, conservationists, user groups and the general public spent many years refining the provisions that became P.L. 89-249. We believe that the elements of the partnership are clearly defined there when certain obligations and rights are assigned to both the National Park Service and the concessioners in serving the visiting public. Most of the problems and contentions between NPS and concessioners have resulted when government officials have felt that the law could be circumvented and new policy and practices substituted. The wisdom and experience of many years went into its making and it should be retained and observed by both parties to visitor service contracts.

Some concern has been expressed by some who may not understand provisions in P.L. 89-249 granting certain rights to concessioners in service contracts. The concept of possessory interest, preferential right for additional services and preferential right of renewal are all based on sound concepts of inviting the private sector into providing visitor services and motivates them to continue to deliver high quality service under NPS supervision to serve the maximum public need. NPS reports indicate that contrary to the perception by some that concessioners are making high profits on these businesses, the average profit return is stated to be approximately 8-1/2%. While there are a few concessions that are higher than this figure, this average figure clearly indicates that because of the remote locations of many concessions, their seasonal nature and other special business factors, that the concession business does not yield extremely high profits.

We stand ready to join Director Mott in his stated goal of building a better team relationship and we will spend our time, money and talent to sincerely join him in this effort.

Travel in the National Parks

Efforts by the National Park Service to promote travel to under-used areas of the system are very worthwhile. Concessioners try to join in this effort whenever possible and have supported general efforts to improve visitation by people and groups who may need special arrangements for visiting national parks.

We have also found it valuable to work with the National Park Service through the Travel Working Group, along with other organizations promoting travel and tourism. This cooperative effort can only build good results in the future.

Our organization will be happy to cooperate with the National Park Service and other groups in working on new approaches for visitation to the national park areas.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for this opportunity to appear before the sub-committee. I would be pleased to answer any questions you might have.

Senator **Wallop**. Rex, thank you.

I don't know what happened to Clay Peters, but clearly his statement would be welcomed as part of this hearing record. I apologize for the clock and the activity on the floor.

I would make a couple of observations.

One, I think, Mr. Guenther, you hit at least peripherally on, and I think it's important that we keep it as part of the whole concept—and that is that in pursuit of the future, we simply cannot forget the needs of today's park visitors, of people who want access to the parks. Because in so doing you run the risk of alienating their affection and their concern and their passion for the kinds of things that you want to do for the future.

That's one of those typical problems of balancing that is inherent in the Interior Department and, in particular, in the national parks which ask us to provide for Americans' enjoyment and protect them at the same time. And that level is best met when it isn't tipped strongly in either direction.

That would bring me to a comment on your statement, Paul, that the national parks are perhaps more threatened today than at any time in their history. And I'm not certain that I can embrace that in the abstract without adding the qualification that one of the reasons they're not so threatened as they have been in the past is because there is recognition of the threat.

That alone provides them with a certain level of protection and conceptual promise that they did not have when people just viewed them as a place for a few folks to go and a lot of bears to live. There is a better situation now. And so while the threat is nonetheless real, I think that that situation is one of promise, more than foreboding.

Mr. **Pritchard**. Mr. Chairman, may I respond? I think your point is valid, in that there is a great awareness, a greater concern, and I think you've seen that in the establishment of the Yellowstone Coalition in your home State and, as was mentioned earlier, of the establishment of grassroots citizen committees and land acquisition trusts and such all over the country. And citizens are saying, actions are not being taken that will protect these park resources, we will do what we can here at the local level. But I think they would support and be encouraged by action taken in Washington to carry out the recommendations of the Conservation Foundation's report.

Senator **Wallop**. I would, too. And let me say that I would hope that as people go down the road and use the English language, that when they came to words like "coalition," they would seek to achieve one. You know, there is a broadly based approach rather than a narrowly based approach.

I think you have to involve all the variety of interests before you really have what can appropriately be called a "coalition." And I think that can be achieved, but I don't think it has been yet.

I think that for all the concerns expressed by that group, the likelihood of success in what they seek will be much greater, the broader the base they seek to achieve under it.

And, Rex, I would say to you that, having known concessioners all my life, I share with you the concern that, like any group of people, some are not up to the level of standards that we would like to see uniformly. That's an ongoing process that will never be complete, because they're humans. But most of them are, I think, very concerned about the quality of the parks that they have concessions in because therein lies their dependency. They simply can't make livings out of shabby surroundings or inadequate administration or, in fact, inadequate concessions.

One thing they need, in my experience, is a little more predictability in exchange for stronger requirements as to level of performance. It's very hard for somebody to go to a bank and borrow money on a 5-year lease unless you're trying to tell that bank that there's some economic certainty that whatever you're borrowing can be repaid. And so those things balance in the terms of just real practical economics.

In exchange for a longer lease, I think you can make greater requirements. It's very hard to put a higher requirement on somebody and give him 5 years' extension and expect, then, it will be done in the kind of way that doesn't maximize the human effort to shortcut. I hope we see all of these things balanced.

I'm interested and excited by the prospect we have, and I'm excited by the prospect that's raised by the diversity of interests that are today represented by dozens of others who have expressed a desire to be part of this whole reevaluation and reassessment.

With that in mind, our hearing record will remain open for 2 weeks. And, of course, this is not the granite tombstone, but the first of many hearings in which I hope this committee indulges itself as we proceed down this road.

Thank you all very much. I appreciate it.

[Whereupon, at 12:12 p.m., the hearing was adjourned.]

APPENDIX

RESPONSE TO ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE QUESTIONS

United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:
L58(180)

SEP 19 1985

Honorable Malcolm Wallop
Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands, Reserved
Water and Resource Conservation
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wallop:

As a follow-up to the oversight hearing on July 18, 1985, before your subcommittee, we are enclosing the answers to the questions you sent on July 24, 1985, with the exception of the answers to Senator Bumpers' questions on Hot Springs National Park. The Director personally visited that park on August 30, and our responses, to be forwarded shortly, will be based on his visit.

Sincerely,

Mary Lou Grier

ACTING Director

Enclosures

Committee Note.--The response to Senator Bumpers' questions on Hot Springs National Park was not received at the time of printing.

2. BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER

Another National Park located in my state, the Buffalo National River, desparately needs construction and development funds. The park was created in 1973; visitation to the park has increased from roughtly 200,000 in 1974 to nearly 700,000 in 1984, but development of facilities has not kept up with the increased use. Park resources may be threatened by overuse unless necessary facilities can be constructed. I understand that the development plans for the park have been approved. Do you plan to request funds for the needed work on camping areas, boat launches, parking areas, and trails?

ANSWER: The Park's Master Plan and four Development Concept Plans have been approved. With respect to the availability of design and construction funding to implement the plans, we cannot give a definitive answer at this time. There are many competing needs for development funds throughout the National Park Service and only a limited amount of funding and professional staff available to address them. Given the present status of advance planning and project planning (preparation of design specifications) at Buffalo National River, no construction funding could be utilized before FY 1987.

3. LAND ACQUISITION

A. Do you plan to request additional funds for land acquisition in FY 86? FY 87?

ANSWER: In addition to funds for acquisition management, the President's budget request for FY 1986 includes funding for emergency and hardship acquisitions and deficiency court awards. In view of the need to control Federal spending in order to reduce budgetary deficits, the Administration has proposed a three-year moratorium on the purchase of parkland. As I have said many times, I would like to explore more creative mechanisms to protecting resources rather than fee acquisition, particularly during these times of tight budgets.

B. How will you establish priorities for land acquisition over the next few years?

ANSWER: Within a given park the land acquisition priorities are established by Land Protection Plans. A total of 184 Land Protection Plans will be required and all are scheduled for completion by the end of fiscal year 1985. To date, 148 plans have cleared the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. It is required that all plans be reviewed and updated biennially.

To determine priorities for land acquisition on a Servicewide basis, a task force has been convened to re-examine existing criteria. The task force has recently developed and intends to test a revised set of criteria (Priority Ranking System) designed to provide better priority information. The criteria will weight various factors such as legislative mandates, threats to the resources, and rates of price escalation. Information generated by the system, when operational, would be used to assist management in making decisions on land acquisition budget proposals.

C. Do you expect to ask Congress to deauthorize any units of the Park System?

ANSWER: No.

4. LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

A. Do you expect to recommend any changes in the Land and Water Conservation Fund?

ANSWER: I look forward to reviewing the recommendations from the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors.

B. Amending the law to establish a Land and Water Conservation TRUST fund has been suggested. Do you support this concept?

ANSWER: I support the concept, but whether it would be workable must be reviewed carefully in light of the national economic situation. As I stated in my answer above, I look forward to reviewing the recommendations from the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors, which I anticipate will address this very issue.

C. Do you believe that monies from the Land and Water Conservation Fund should be granted to the states for acquisition of state and local parklands?

ANSWER: Philosophically, I support this concept; and I would like to point out that funds provided through matching grants in prior years have been effectively used to acquire parklands by both State and local governments as well as the development of visitor facilities. However, given the need to control Federal expenditures, the Administration is not requesting additional grant monies for FY 1986. State programs will continue to emphasize management of active projects and the expeditious expenditure of grants awarded in prior years. Also, I would like to offer a challenge to both State and local governments to begin exploring other innovative acquisition strategies as we are beginning to do at the National level.

D. Couldn't creating more state and local parks be expected to relieve some of the pressures on the National Park System?

ANSWER: To some extent. In fact, in order to enhance our ability to meet the diverse uses that the public expects of the National Park System, we must work closely with the park systems at the State and local level to identify where the most appropriate activity can be found. Then, we must let the public know where they can go for a given activity. This, I believe, will help relieve some of the pressures on the National Park System.

5. ENTRANCE AND USER FEES

A. Since your last appearance before this Committee, have you reached any conclusions about appropriate levels of increases in entrance and user fees for the National Parks?

ANSWER: User fees for such activities as camping are currently being reviewed to ensure comparability with other Federal, non-Federal Public, and other private sector. This annual review will result in some moderate changes in 1986.

All areas of the National Park System are looking at the feasibility of establishing entrance fees where they do not now exist or of increasing entrance fees where they now exist. At the present time I have proposed a maximum limit of $5 per vehicle and a minimum of $1. Park managers are to recommend a fee based on the criteria of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act and my dollar limit, and I anticipate having the specific proposal and schedule of entrance fees shortly.

B. Your recent statements have indicated that you expect to limit the number of visitors to some parks in order to protect park resources from overuse. Do you plan you try to discourage visitation by increasing fees at overused parks, or simply to establish quotas on visitation?

ANSWER: It is not my intention to try to discourage visitation by increasing fees. However, "appropriate levels of use" is a very different issue. Right now the University of Arizona is doing a study at Lake Powell and Lake Mead to determine an appropriate level of use, and the National Parks and Conservation Association is working with the University of Maryland to address this issue as well. I look forward to reviewing the studies when they have been completed.

6. EXTERNAL THREATS TO THE PARKS

A. The Conservation Foundation report indicates that many of the parks are threatened by activities taking place on lands outside park boundaries. Should steps be taken to restrict activities on Federal lands adjacent to National Parks if they result in degradation of park resources?

ANSWER: Last year the Under Secretary of the Interior convened a working group of senior policy officials and their staffs from various bureaus within Interior and representatives of the Forest Service to look at the issue of park protection. This working group included representatives of most of the Federal land managing agencies that oversee lands adjacent to units of the National Park System. The working group recommended that each of the bureaus and agencies involved implement a program "to better anticipate, avoid, and (if necessary) resolve these /resource/ conflicts, but not by establishing new systems and programs." The National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Reclamation have all been directed to develop Action Plans to achieve improved inter-bureau cooperation in dealing with park protection issues, with schedules of accomplishment and responsible officials identified. While these steps would not "restrict" activities, it is hoped that through the mechanisms identified and a better cooperative relationship, activities on Federal lands adjacent to National Parks which would result in the degradation of park resources can be avoided.

B. What should be done?

ANSWER: The National Park Service needs to aggressively pursue cooperative dialogues and actions on regulations, planning, environmental compliance, and other topics of mutual interest with other Interior bureaus and Federal agencies. This will require that the National Park Service promote, and other agencies develop, a sympathetic understanding of park values and a better appreciation of the fragility of park resources, with appropriate protection measures to be coordinated through the Action Plans developed by the individual Agencies.

C. Does the Park Service need additional statutory authority to protect the parks from outside development?

ANSWER: We do not feel any additional statutory authority is needed to protect parks from outside development.

7. When the Reagan Administration took over in January, 1981, it announced its general opposition to new additions to the National Park System, citing as the primary reason the fact that there was a large backlog of authorized but unacquired lands inside existing park units.

The Congress and this Committee have generally gone along with the proposition that the park creating "binge" of the late 1970's had to stop and very few units or the expansion of existing ones have been authorized in the past four years. At the same time, this Committee, under the leadership of Senator Wallop, has conducted numerous hearings and workshops designed to lay out alternative land protection strategies and alternatives designed to help reduce the backlog in the most cost effective manner possible.

Unfortunately, the Administration's response to these efforts has been disappointing at best. The Department of the Interior has consistently requested little or no money for Federal land acquisition (the exception being the 1984 Presidential election year); little if any land has been acquired pursuant to the land protection plans using alternative land acquisition techniques; and the Administration continues to cite the land acquisition backlog as the major constraint to establishing new areas or embarking or any new programs.

If this Administration can support a $850 million dollar plan to build sewers, roads, refurbish buildings, etc., I think it could actively support a modest program to help reduce the land acquisition backlog. According to the Conservation Foundation's new report, the backlog of authorized but unfunded land acquisition projects for national parks stood at approximately $525 million at the end of FY 1984. While I am sure that the actual cost of these lands is in many cases in excess of the currently authorized amount, I believe that we cou'd reduce the park portion of the backlog very significantly if we started working on the problem rather than just complain about it. What is you view on this matter?

ANSWER: I agree that an effective land acquisition program, developed to address the priorities outlined in approved Land Protection Plans, would reduce the backlog in land acquisition needs and help protect important park resources. However, gaining control of Federal spending in order to reduce budget deficits is paramount at the present time. I believe that we have not used other innovative acquisition strategies involving States, other Federal agencies, and the private sector as extensively as we might; and I intend to explore these avenues for increased flexibility in protecting and, as necessary, acquiring additional acreage without large expenditures of money. For the information of the Committee, the Administration has obligated $442,636,326 for land acquisition during the period January 1981 through July 1985.

8. I note that the President's FY '86 budget proposal contains no funding request for the Historic Preservation Fund -- the matching grants program for State preservation activities. The justification for not funding this program concludes that direct Federal support can and should be replaced by private sector involvement. The justification also states that the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 incorporates specific provisions which enhances tax incentives for the rehabilitation of historic buildings. (This justification was prepared before the new tax reform proposal was developed.)

A. What is the total value of the historic preservation activities that have occurred as a result of the enactment of the 1981 Economic Recovery Tax Act?

ANSWER: Between January 1982 and March 30, 1985, approximately 9,200 projects, which if completed would represent $6.67 billion in investment, have been approved and/or certified for the 25% tax credit. Many of these approvals were granted for projects not yet underway or completed; consequently the total dollars actually expended on historic preservation is less than the $6.67 billion figure.

B. The Administration's new tax reform proposal, referred to as Treasury II, would repeal all rehabilitation investment tax credits. If the provision were repealed, how would it affect historic preservation nationwide?

ANSWER: It is unclear precisely how repeal of the 25% investment tax credit would affect historic preservation nationwide. Clearly, the tax credit has helped spur private investment in historic preservation, and without a Federal incentive some decrease in rehabilitation activity is to be expected. Sixty-five percent of owners of certified rehabilitations have indicated to the National Park Service that they would not have undertaken their rehabilitation work without the availability of the investment tax credit.

C. To be even more specific, how would the repeal of this tax credit affect costly restoration projects planned under the authority of the historic properties leasing program for units of the National Park System such as Ellis Island or Hot Springs National Park?

ANSWER: See the answer to "D." below.

D. Would the elimination of these credits diminish the chances for restoring these important structures?

ANSWER: The three main factors that determine whether a building is leasable under the Service's Historic Property Leasing Program are its location, condition, and physical configuration. Generally speaking, the preservation tax incentives might make the difference in leasing marginal buildings, but they are not the main determining factor. However, with specific regard to the redundant hospital buildings at Ellis Island and bathhouses at Hot Springs, the preservation tax incentives will play a pivotal role; and without these tax incentives, the restoration of these buildings cannot be ensured.

9. Director Mott, in your speech to the Greater Yellowstone Coalition in June, you called the national park system "one of the greatest ideas we ever had." There are now some 2,600 national parks and equivalent reserves in 137 nations -- parks protecting the most outstanding scenery and most important wildlife habitats around the world.

In years past, the National Park System actively promoted creation of parks systems abroad by helping these countries establish and train their parks personnel. The NPS has trained the majority of parks systems directors. Over 3,000 foreign parks professionals have received training. Model parks programs have helped improve significantly protection of world-famous parks in Costa Rica, Tanzania, India, and other countries.

In recent years, the NPS budget has contained no funding for this work beyond personnel and office costs. As a result, the NPS has been obliged to turn down most of the over 100 requests for assistance it receives from various countries each year. Nor can it meet its obligations under several treaties and bilateral agreements. Some projects have continued with outside funding, but it seems to me that this practice deprives the Service of the initiative in setting priorities.

A. Do you support a restoration of the Service's leadership in promoting national parks abroad?

ANSWER: I fully support a National Park Service leadership role in the world park community. As others have said, and I agree, the "national park idea" has proven to be one of the best American exports; and, through this medium, we have gained both respect and friends for the United States throughout the world. In turn, the National Park Service has assisted in the protection and management of nationally and internationally significant heritage in nearly every nation.

Regrettably in recent years, we have had to turn our attention to the overriding economic concern for this Nation as a whole; and, as a result, our flexibility in our international program and our ability to support U.S. commitments through binational conservation agreements and treaties has, by necessity, diminished. Due to tight budgets, we have not been able to request funds in order to respond to many formal government-to-government requests for assistance in conserving heritage and dwindling biological resources. However, in spite of these limitations, we have done remarkably well by making our park professionals available to other agencies on a reimbursable basis to accommodate various mission and embassy requests. We have not been able, however, to respond directly to country-to-country requests. Further, those park managers from other countries that have come to the United States at their own expense continue to be trained in our parks and training centers; our cooperation with the Peace Corps has resulted in a five-fold increase in volunteers in conservation work; our cooperation with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has produced numerous publications to guide environmentally sound development and has allowed training of park managers, administrators, and biologists that would otherwise not have been possible. Our close working relationships with U.S. conservation groups and international organizations such as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) have permitted us to respond to at least some requests from other governments.

We can no longer consider our parks in isolation, nor can we consider our National Park System in isolation. The exchange of ideas and information between managers of national park systems is becoming increasingly important for the effective management of our areas.

B. Are you now considering ways to bring this about?

ANSWER: The National Park Service actively participated in the preparation of both the U.S. Strategy on the Conservation of Biological Diversity -- An Interagency Task Force Report to Congress as well as Conserving International Wildlife Resources: The U.S. Response -- A Report to Congress by the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Interior (December 1984) required pursuant to the International Environmental Act, 1983 (P.L.98-164). I endorse the recommendations made by both Secretaries to Congress in the latter report and feel that the recommendations are complementary to my 12-point plan. Specifically, we have taken steps, as outlined in the Summary section of the latter report, to implement the following portions:

1. Authority, Policy, and Organization -- The Secretary has submitted draft legislation to the Office of Management and Budget that would clarify aspects of Interior's direct authority to engage in international activities and would address the need to identify the most suitable and best qualified individuals for overseas assignments. This proposed legislation was developed by the Assistant Secretary, Territorial and International Affairs.

I believe park programs will benefit from having authority directly available to the Secretary of the Interior for cooperation with other nations. Further, the Secretary has under review draft materials to provide policy direction to both the National Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service in ensuring the effective implementation of international activities including the World Heritage and Western Hemisphere Conventions and bilateral agreements.

2. Collection and Exchange of Information -- I support the current efforts to improve the accessing and exchange of information and data on the status of national parks and other protected areas with the IUCN Protected Area Data Unit as well as other organizations. We will continue to work with these organizations and support their efforts to the extent possible.

3. Close and Efficient Working Relationships -- Without affirmative cooperative working relationships with other organizations, I firmly believe that we could accomplish very little overseas, much less bring the many benefits back to the United States. We will maintain these close ties within the U.S. and international conservation community. In fact, on August 2, I met with the Director of the Countryside Commission of the United Kingdom to develop a more systematic basis for improved cooperation. I am scheduled to meet on August 12 with representatives from many of the private U.S. conservation organizations which have expressed their concern and support for

a strengthened National Park Service role in international efforts to conserve biological diversity and nationally and internationally significant heritage. I personally look forward to benefitting from their views.

4. & 5. Research and Monitoring/Using Available Information -- We have participated in such efforts through IUCN and in direct cooperation with USAID since 1979 in our Joint Expanded Information Base Project under a Participating Agency Service Agreement which has produced a series of 18 publications disseminated worldwide.

6. Effective Assistance Abroad -- It is unrealistic to expect the National Park Service to commit the fiscal resources necessary to respond to all of the hundreds of requests for assistance from foreign sources, which we receive on an ongoing basis. However, I intend to approach these needs through a creative mechanism, such as fundraising and leveraging existing funds from all sources, and in close cooperation with other agencies and non-governmental organizations, in order to try to expand, as appropriate, our involvement with other nations.

7. Development of Knowledge, Capability, and Awareness -- The National Park Service has excelled in its efforts and emphasis on training and public awareness in its international efforts. As I stated in my statement on July 18, we have, indeed, been responsible for training the majority of senior

conservation officials in the world park community. Through this effort, our own personnel have matured and grown as individuals and professionals with a flexibility and sensitivity that would otherwise not have been possible. The sharing of experience is a two-way street. The National Park Service is better prepared to deal with the resource management challenges of the future and serve the needs of a diverse American public as a result of these efforts.

In short, I pledge that we will continue to strengthen our cooperative relationships with the many similarly dedicated institutions that share our concerns for national and international heritage, and through these partnerships, address such large issues as conservation of biological diversity and the development of related self-help capabilities in the less economically advantaged regions of the world.

SENATOR JEFF BINGAMAN

10. Have you received a specific commitment from the President, Secretary Hodel, and OMB to support your twelve-point plan?

ANSWER: As I stated in my July 18 testimony before this Subcommittee, I discussed the specific points with Secretary Hodel as a basic condition of my acceptance of the position of Director of the National Park Service; and he has given me his full support.

11. Can you implement your plan within the Administration's proposed budget of $674 million?

ANSWER: Yes.

12. What additional resources do you feel you will need?

ANSWER: The receipts from my entrance fee proposal which was the topic of a hearing before this Subcommittee on June 27, 1985.

13. What is your position on land acquisition for the parks? This seems to be an issue on which the Congress and the Administration continue to disagree. The Administration has requested just over $11 million as opposed to the $147 million appropriated by Congress last year.

ANSWER: We believe that the need to control Federal spending in order to reduce the budgetary deficit must, of necessity, take precedence over the acquisition of additional parkland. We will continue to include in the budget sufficient funds to cover emergency and hardship cases, estimated deficiency court awards, and administrative expenses. As I have stated many times, I will also explore more creative approaches to protecting resources without a large expenditure of funds.

14. (A) What are your general thoughts on the report released by the Conservation Foundation?

ANSWER: I believe that the Conservation Foundation report is an objective analysis of the various issues; and I commend the large effort they undertook.

(B) Can you support their recommendations for funding levels?

ANSWER: I cannot make any commitment at this time for the specific funding levels outlined in the report. However, I will certainly examine each one of the proposals as I make final recommendations on future year budgets for the National Park Service.

15. (A) I have been concerned over the growing criticism of the management of cultural and archeological resources in our parks. Have you made any recommendations in this area?

ANSWER: Protection of archeological resources is a major problem, not only on National Park Service land but also on lands controlled by other Federal agencies. Both the Secretary and I are interested in improving protection of public lands, and in encouraging the public to take greater pride in those lands and in helping the Government fight against people who damage public property. Throughout the country vandals are increasingly damaging publically owned sites, due in part to the increasing commercial value of historic and prehistoric artifacts. Because of the isolation and number of archeological resources, it is very difficult to protect them adequately. However, most Federal agencies are aware of this growing problem, and many are taking positive steps to address it. For example, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management in New Mexico and Arizona recently sponsored a multi-year interagency operation aimed at indicting individuals who vandalize sites for commercial gain, as well as individuals active in receiving and selling archeological materials obtained illegally from Federal or Indian lands. The National Park Service has recently been involved in the prosecution of individuals who vandalized Richmond National Battlefield Park in Virginia. We used this incident as an opportunity to generate publicity about the need to protect our publicly owned resources and about the penalties for violating pertinent statutes. We intend to continue to protect such resources with vigorous public relations campaigns and appropriate legal actions.

(B) Do you feel improvements can be made to better manage and protect these unique resources? This issue is of special concern to me because of the significance of Chaco Canyon National Park and Bandalier National Monument.

ANSWER: Because of its role in the overall Federal archeology program, the National Park Service is particularly concerned with this problem. Our law enforcement program is establishing, and will maintain, a computerized data base dealing with the Archeological Resources Protection Act. We are participating in the working group addressing park protection initiatives, and we sponsored a meeting of Federal resource managers and law enforcement personnel on August 14-15 to begin interagency discussions of the problem and possible solutions. We hope this meeting will facilitate cooperation among various land managing agencies to improve the protection of archeological resources. We are also cooperating with the United States Air Force in developing and offering a course to Department of Defense personnel regarding the Archeological Resources Protection Act. We intend to continue to play a very active role in assisting other Federal agencies to address this important resource protection issue.

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